

Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Commission Agenda



Date: Monday, 27 November 2023

Time: 5.30 pm

Venue: 1P05: Beira Room - City Hall, College Green, Bristol, BS1 5TR

Distribution:

Councillors: David Wilcox (Chair), Andrew Varney (Vice-Chair), Tim Rippington, Emma Edwards, Jenny Bartle, Mark Weston, Kevin Quartley, Marley Bennett and Farah Hussain

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Date: Friday, 17 November 2023



Agenda

1. Welcome, Introductions and Safety Information

(Pages 4 - 6)

2. Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

3. Declarations of Interest

To note any declarations of interest from the Councillors. They are asked to indicate the relevant agenda item, the nature of the interest and in particular whether it is a **disclosable pecuniary interest**.

Any declarations of interest made at the meeting which is not on the register of interests should be notified to the Monitoring Officer for inclusion.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

To agree the minutes of the previous meeting as a correct record.

(Pages 7 - 16)

5. Action Tracker

(Pages 17 - 20)

6. Chair's Business

To note any announcements from the Chair

7. Public Forum

Up to 30 minutes is allowed for this item

Any member of the public or Councillor may participate in Public Forum. The detailed arrangements for so doing are set out in the Public Information Sheet at the back of this agenda. Public Forum items should be emailed to scrutiny@bristol.gov.uk and please note that the following deadlines will apply in relation to this meeting:-

Questions - Written questions must be received 3 clear working days prior to the meeting. For this meeting, this means that your question(s) must be received in this office at the latest by **5pm on Tuesday 21st November**.



Petitions and Statements - Petitions and statements must be received on the working day prior to the meeting. For this meeting this means that your submission must be received in this office at the latest by **12.00 noon on Friday 24th November**.

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| 8. Quarter 1 Performance Report | (Pages 21 - 38) |
| 9. City Centre & High Streets Recovery and Renewal | (Pages 39 - 71) |
| 10. Planning Service Update | (Pages 72 - 84) |
| 11. Bristol Avon Flood Strategy | (Pages 85 - 92) |
| 12. Local Flood Risk Management Strategy | (Pages 93 - 101) |
| 13. Work Programme
To note the work programme. | (Pages 102 - 106) |



Public Information Sheet

Inspection of Papers - Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

You can find papers for all our meetings on our website at www.bristol.gov.uk.

Public meetings

Public meetings including Cabinet, Full Council, regulatory meetings (where planning and licensing decisions are made) and scrutiny will now be held at City Hall.

Members of the press and public who plan to attend City Hall are advised that you may be asked to watch the meeting on a screen in another room should the numbers attending exceed the maximum occupancy of the meeting venue.

COVID-19 Prevention Measures at City Hall (from March 2022)

When attending a meeting at City Hall, the following COVID-19 prevention guidance is advised:

- promotion of good hand hygiene: washing and disinfecting hands frequently
- while face coverings are no longer mandatory, we will continue to recommend their use in venues and workplaces with limited ventilation or large groups of people.
- although legal restrictions have been removed, we should continue to be mindful of others as we navigate this next phase of the pandemic.

COVID-19 Safety Measures for Attendance at Council Meetings (from March 2022)

Government advice remains that anyone testing positive for COVID-19 should self-isolate for 10 days (unless they receive two negative lateral flow tests on consecutive days from day five).

We therefore request that no one attends a Council Meeting if they:

- are suffering from symptoms of COVID-19 or
- have tested positive for COVID-19

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You can get committee papers in other formats (e.g. large print, audio tape, braille etc) or in community languages by contacting the Democratic Services Officer. Please give as much notice as possible. We cannot guarantee re-formatting or translation of papers before the date of a particular meeting.

Committee rooms are fitted with induction loops to assist people with hearing impairment. If you require any assistance with this please speak to the Democratic Services Officer.



Public Forum

Members of the public may make a written statement ask a question or present a petition to most meetings. Your statement or question will be sent to the Committee Members and will be published on the Council's website before the meeting. Please send it to scrutiny@bristol.gov.uk.

The following requirements apply:

- The statement is received no later than **12.00 noon on the working day before the meeting** and is about a matter which is the responsibility of the committee concerned.
- The question is received no later than **5pm three clear working days before the meeting**.

Any statement submitted should be no longer than one side of A4 paper. If the statement is longer than this, then for reasons of cost, it may be that only the first sheet will be copied and made available at the meeting. For copyright reasons, we are unable to reproduce or publish newspaper or magazine articles that may be attached to statements.

By participating in public forum business, we will assume that you have consented to your name and the details of your submission being recorded and circulated to the Committee and published within the minutes. Your statement or question will also be made available to the public via publication on the Council's website and may be provided upon request in response to Freedom of Information Act requests in the future.

We will try to remove personal and identifiable information. However, because of time constraints we cannot guarantee this, and you may therefore wish to consider if your statement contains information that you would prefer not to be in the public domain. Other committee papers may be placed on the council's website and information within them may be searchable on the internet.

During the meeting:

- Public Forum is normally one of the first items on the agenda, although statements and petitions that relate to specific items on the agenda may be taken just before the item concerned.
- There will be no debate on statements or petitions.
- The Chair will call each submission in turn. When you are invited to speak, please make sure that your presentation focuses on the key issues that you would like Members to consider. This will have the greatest impact.
- Your time allocation may have to be strictly limited if there are a lot of submissions. **This may be as short as one minute.**
- If there are a large number of submissions on one matter a representative may be requested to speak on the groups behalf.
- If you do not attend or speak at the meeting at which your public forum submission is being taken your statement will be noted by Members.
- Under our security arrangements, please note that members of the public (and bags) may be searched. This may apply in the interests of helping to ensure a safe meeting environment for all attending.



- As part of the drive to reduce single-use plastics in council-owned buildings, please bring your own water bottle in order to fill up from the water dispenser.

For further information about procedure rules please refer to our Constitution <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/how-council-decisions-are-made/constitution>

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Bristol City Council Minutes of the Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Commission



28 September 2023 at 5.30 pm

Members Present:-

Councillors: David Wilcox (Chair), Andrew Varney (Vice-Chair), Tim Rippington, Jenny Bartle, Mark Weston, Kevin Quartley and Marley Bennett

1 Welcome, Introductions and Safety Information

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the emergency evacuation procedure.

The Chair explained that one or two agenda items at the beginning of the meeting would be taken in a slightly different order to the agenda published on the meeting webpage.

Please note: the minutes will be written in the order that they were originally published.

2 Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

- Councillor Farah Hussain did not attend.

The Chair asked everyone in the room to introduce themselves.

Officers in attendance were:

- John Smith, Interim Executive Director Growth and Regeneration
- Alex Hearn, Interim Director: Economy of Place
- Adam Crowther, Head of City Transport
- David Gibson, Director of Infrastructure, WECA
- Malcolm Parsons, Head of Capital Delivery, WECA
- Felicity Williamson, Strategic Intelligence and Performance Advisor
- Jim Cliffe, Planning Obligations Manager
- Clem Teagle, Communications and Engagement Manager, Temple Quarter



- Karen Mercer, Delivery Director, Bristol Temple Quarter (WECA)
- Johanna Holmes, Scrutiny Coordinator

Also in attendance:

- Cllr Don Alexander – Cabinet Member for Transport

Plus;

- Suzanne Audrey- local resident, attending for Public Forum.
- Dan Ackroyd – local resident.

3 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

4 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting on the 22nd March 2023 were agreed as an accurate record.

5 Chair's Business

There were no announcements from the Chair on this occasion.

6 Public Forum

Public Forum for this meeting can be viewed [here](#).

Copies of all public forum submissions had been circulated to Members in advance of the meeting and published on the Council website alongside the agenda papers.

The Commission noted that Public Forum had been received as follows:

Statements:

- Suzanne Audrey – 2022/23 Housing Completion Figures.

Suzanne referenced her statement and that she did not feel she had received a clear response at Full Council about the total number of new homes that had been completed in 2022/23, and asked if Members could ask the same question during this meeting.

Suzanne stated that she was also very interested in the Temple Quarter item and what was happening with regards to the Grosvenor Hotel and when the bus stops and pavements would be back in use there. She was also interested in the new southern entrance to the train station and curious when reference made to the 'A4 access route' what exactly that meant and what it will be used for.

John Smith, Interim Executive Director Growth and Regeneration said he would be happy to take the question about '2022/23 housing completion figures' away and provide a reply after the meeting.



The Chair noted that the other points raised by Suzanne would be discussed during the Temple Quarter agenda item.

Action: Officers to provide the figure for the total number of new homes that had been completed in 2022/23 and of which how many are classed as affordable, and how many of those are for social rent?

7 Annual Business Report

The Annual Business Report was introduced by the Scrutiny Coordinator.

The Commission Resolved to:

- Note the Commission's Terms of Reference
- Note the Chair - Cllr Wilcox and Vice-Chair – Cllr Varney, for the 2023-2024 municipal year.
- Note the membership of the Commission for the 2023-2024 municipal year.
- Confirm dates for the two further 2023-2024 meetings;
 - Monday 27th November 2023, 5.30pm
 - Monday 26th February 2024, 5.30pm

8 Regional Joint Working on Transport Schemes

John Smith, Interim Executive Director Growth and Regeneration introduced the item to Members. BCC officers and WECA representatives in attendance then provided some examples of how projects are managed and delivered and then provided some examples of the positive regional transport work that was taking place.

David Gibson said overall this was a billion-pound portfolio and Bristol City Council (BCC) was at the heart of a lot of that delivery. It was emphasised how important it was for BCC and WECA to work closely, so they could Deliver the full scope of all the programmes as they have been bid for and funded, largely by the Department for Transport (DfT).

Malcolm Parsons highlighted some key examples of joint working between BCC and the Combined Authority (CA) such as local Park and Ride projects and railway stations. The current and positive collaboration was the only way to effectively deliver projects such as these and he wanted that to continue.

Adam Crowther, Head of City Transport, took Members through the published slide deck. Some key points from the presentation and discussion were as follows:

- The slides only show some examples of projects and do not reflect all the projects currently being undertaken.
- Officers provided an overview of the complex processes and phases required to establish a Park and Ride service along the M32 such as re-classification which was critical to enable the work to go ahead. Other options were either extremely expensive and/or unachievable.



- The planned M32 Park and Ride will include a mobility hub, require land purchases and a number of planning applications. National Highways have confirmed that to delivering the whole vision will require de-trunking of the M32.
- There is still a need to identify some important areas for bus connections. The wider economic needs of region, such as access to jobs will be considered when decisions are made. Officers emphasised the importance of coordinating the project with WECA and having a 'regional voice', especially when having an influence on National Highways.
- The A4 Portway corridor and hub is a BCC led project and WECA are overseeing it. BCC was currently working on the design of the route into the City. The relationship with WECA on this scheme was one where BCC set out the proposals and WECA perform a consensual assurance role.
- CRSTS – the DfT offered the opportunity of re-baselining the programme, funding and delivery. Officers have gone through the process of revising delivery and other scope changes but it is still subject to DfT approval. It had also been suggested by the DfT that there was scope for over-programming in CRSTS 1.
- The proposals for CRSTS 2 would be submitted next year. Although it was noted that the £8billion CRSTS 2 funding was not confirmed yet or if it would be bidding process or an allocation of funding.

Further Member Questions and discussion points were as follows:

- A Member asked if 'over-programming' was a list of everything that we want to do and was it an 'off the shelf' list? Officers said over programming allows some projects to be brought forward whilst there are delays in others. This allows the programme of work to continue and reduces overall delays.
- The requirement to spend all CRSTS funding by March 2027 was confirmed. If all the funding had not been spent the Council would negotiate for an extension and the intention was to avoid having to pay back any funding.
- Would all of the projects be delivered or were some projects potentially at risk? Officers said they completed a re-programming exercise and it showed all projects are online for 2027 completion. However, the City Centre was the biggest project and the had the most significant amount of match funding attached to it. Inflationary pressures could cause changes but was why there was a programme management office who could make changes if necessary and they would be watching that very closely. David Gibson added that the impact of inflation was part of the reason they had re-baselined and had subjected the entire programme to some very detailed and rigorous examination and were not putting forward something that they did not think they could deliver as a region They were confident that the entire programme would be fully delivered by March 2027.
- Clarification was provided on the difference between the reclassification and de-trunking of the M32. Reclassifying did not mean that National Highways relinquished responsibility. But de-trunking meant the local authority would now take now take responsibility for it.
- The M32 crosses local authority boundaries, had WECA been able to help progress this work or would it have happened now anyway? Officers said they been looking to implement a Park and Ride on the M32 for several years. But the current situation was now different because the relevant local authorities were all pulling in same direction and there's an understanding this was a regional project that they needed to engage with. But WECA had likely helped the process yes.
- Given the high volume of traffic on the M32, had this ever been considered for a route for mass transit? Officers said yes, as this was a very straight road it could potentially be used for trams etc but there was very little housing there to serve until Eastville. That was a possibility in future, but it was currently seen more suited to a bus route that could come right into city centre as well.



The Chair thanked all the officers for their time.

9 Quarter 4 Performance Report

The Quarter 4 Performance Report was introduced by Felicity Williamson, Strategic Intelligence and Performance Advisor. Members asked questions about the following themes in the report:

- BPPM375 - Empty council properties and BPPM374a - Average relet times – were both significantly worse than target. A Member asked how many properties were currently empty? And what was the average relet time i.e. was it days or weeks?
Action: officers said they would report back on the current number of empty properties and the relet times.
- Did the Council have a policy on under occupation of council properties or provide any incentives for people to down-size i.e. one person living in a four bedroom house that could be relet to a family.
Action: officers said they would take this question away and provide a response after the meeting.
- Actions P-HC1.2 (Page 30) Support the delivery of 1,000 low and zero carbon, affordable homes (AH) by 2024 by investing £12m this year and providing development expertise to partners: A Member commented that the explanation in the report was unclear in that it says the Council has not done what it intended to do but it didn't explain and how much of 12m been spent or how many affordable houses had been built. Officers said there were numerous factors causing slippage in the programme across all forms of affordable housing delivery. Page 30 of the report stated that in August there had been 309 AHs built, but they would provide further information about how much of the £12m funding had been spent after the meeting.
Action: Officers to provide further information about how much of £12m funding had been invested after the meeting.
- BPOM476 (QoL) Increase the number of people travelling actively to work by walking and cycling, was shown as 'significantly worse than target'. A Member said the explanation was said to be more people using e-scooters but asked what actual data existed on this?
Action: Officers said they would take this question away and report back in writing after the meeting.
- BPPM477 Increase the number of public electric vehicle charging points; The report stated none had been delivered but there would now be a change in approach. It was not clear if the target will have been met when next reported? The interim Executive Director said that the Council was currently working with the provider colleagues and the funding was coming but they would report back further on this.
Action: Officers to provide an up-date on the number of public electric vehicle charging points being delivered.
- (p 36) Action P-TC4.3; replacing existing streetlights with LED lighting, showing as 'On Track'. A Member asked if it will be possible to request lower lighting in some areas? Where will decisions be made and by whom? **Officers to look into this and provide further information after the meeting.**



- BPPM120 Road Safety: reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic incidents. A Member commented that the explanation was not clear. Officers said this information was provided by the police but due to a new system that had been introduced the data was not currently up to date. It was however suggested that the figure was on a downward trend.
- BPOM434 Reduce the proportion of deaths attributed to particulate air pollution (significantly worse than target). A Member asked for more clarification of the data. The Performance Officer said this was external data reported by Public Health England. It wasn't said to be counting actual deaths but modelled data and was a wider City outcome measure to be aware of, and officers weren't able to go into more detail on.
- A Member raised the previously discussed empty property figures and relet times and commented they were concerned about how the situation was being dealt with. It was suggested this needed to be 'drilled into' about how this was really working as they had little faith that what was being done would actually fix the situation. The Performance Officer said she had realised why the metrics were not included in the report. It was because the information sat with the Communities Scrutiny Commission (CSC) and that was why the themes were included but not the metrics data. It was agreed that this concern would be referred to the CSC.
Action: Scrutiny Coordinator to refer the above concerns about empty property figures and relet times to the Communities Scrutiny Commission.
- It was suggested that the issues raised about the reporting of the metrics needed to be resolved before the new committee system was in place. The Performance Officer said the new dashboard that would be in place for the next Scrutiny Commission meeting would hopefully resolves some of the issues that had been raised.
- BPPM170 - Satisfaction with the condition of road surfaces (National Highways & Transport Satisfaction Survey) - Significantly better than target. A Member commented that although it appeared the quality of local road surfaces was satisfactory and one of the best in the country, but the baseline of target of 35% for satisfaction appeared to be set very low.

The Commission thanked the Strategic Intelligence and Performance Advisor for the information and discussion.

10 Quarter 1 Risk Report

Members noted the Quarter 1 Risk Report.

11 Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Report

Jim Cliffe, Planning Obligations Manager introduced the report for Members and summarised some the key points:

For every pound of CIL collected 80p goes towards strategic infrastructure, 15p goes to the Area Committees to determine what local infrastructure they want to apply it to and 5p goes towards covering the administration costs.



Any infrastructure funded from CIL must support and enable the growth of the City as set out in the Local Plan.

To date the Council has collected approx. £51m of CIL and has allocated approx. £71m. Over-allocation of £20m was not said to be a problem as the money was not all required at the same time and was intended to be drawn down over a period of time as the projects progress.

The future of CIL and all other types of planning obligations and developer contributions were said to be uncertain. The Government has raised the idea of replacing them with a new method of infrastructure levy. This was consulted on earlier in the year but the proposals were said to have been universally rejected by local authorities and housing associations. But it remained to be seen what would happen in the future.

The Council was said to be collecting on average between £7m - £8m each year. For that to continue it would require a regular stream of larger schemes to continue to be delivered as they generate larger amounts of CIL.

The following points were raised and questions asked by Members:

The Chair asked for clarification about scheme that provided high levels of affordable housing (AH) and them not generating the full level of CIL payments. It was replied that if a scheme provided 100% AH it would not generate any CIL payments.

A discussion was had about the relationship between CIL and S106 and whether a scheme that didn't generate CIL could still attract S106. It was said this was quite complicated and national changes were made in 2013. The Governments preferred approach to developer contributions was CIL but it was still possible to generate small amounts S106.

It was clarified that the administration amount was 'up to' 5 pence in every pound but it could be 4 pence, and a penny would then be added to the strategic pot.

A Member asked if the £25m of developer contributions were gaining high interest whilst sat in bank accounts? It was confirmed that S106 is required to be held in an interest paying account but CIL money was not.

It was confirmed that the amount charged per square metre does vary between local authorities.

A Member asked why some schemes, for example 'improvements to parks and green spaces in growth areas across the City' were shown in the report as not started? It was said that this allocation stemmed from a Full Council amendment in March 2022. The amendment required parks officers to identify schemes in areas of growth and then have the approach formally approved at Cabinet, which happened in April 2023. It was anticipated that some of those schemes would begin in the next few months.

It was highlighted some Area Committees had very little CIL because there are so few developments in those areas, which meant there were lengthy backlogs of projects, many of which were local transport schemes to improve road safety. Was there a way to allocate any strategic CIL to some of these areas? The answer was no, due to there being very little or no growth in those areas and the funding had to focus on that. In respect of a specific query relating to the AC2 area it was confirmed that there was a small amount of unspent S106 money from the Cricket Ground Redevelopment that could be used to fund local transport schemes near the cricket Ground.



A discussion was had about how CIL was used across the City and possible forthcoming changes to how it was allocated next year. Some Members voiced concerns that any changes did not make the situation worse and said it needed it to be very carefully thought through.

The Commission thanked the Planning Obligations Manager for the very helpful report and discussion.

12 Temple Quarter Regeneration Programme Update

Officers summarised the published slide deck and highlighted the significant points to Members such what would be delivered and when throughout the two phases of work.

It was said that last year the Government had granted £94.7m to develop the first phase of infrastructure which included the three new train station entrances. Work was about to start on the new Eastern Entrance.

There were some key decisions coming up soon, especially with regards to strategic priorities, the University of Bristol Campus and the Joint Delivery Vehicle (JDV). A paper would be going to Cabinet in November that would include a series of recommendations for approval on the JDV that would drive the programme forward next year. The comprehensive programme of public engagement would continue, and work was ongoing with local communities. Officers said they would also provide member briefings ahead of the November Cabinet Paper.

A Member commented that it didn't say anywhere in the papers that the Joint Venture (JV) was actually a 'company', and that point should have been made clearer in the papers. What risks was the Council taking on by entering into the JV and what risks was it reducing. Officers said an agreement had been made last October and that it had been anticipated that it would be formalised into a company. However, once the Cabinet paper confirmed what the arrangements would be, it would be easier to answer questions on the benefits and risks.

It was suggested there needed to be additional community engagement in Lawrence Hill and this should be carried out by trained community development workers and local organisations. Officers said they were aware and in agreement, and it was already a priority area for engagement. A specific engagement programme was being developed and trained community practitioners would be working in the area. Currently this was mostly awareness raising but if Members were aware of events that they could attend or they thought could be run locally, to please let them know. A Member said there was a danger that much of this would be seen as 'gentrification' but officers seemed to have already understood that which they said was positive.

It was confirmed that the Joint Delivery Vehicle (JTV) would be established and begin in earnest in January 2024. Members asked what the role and scope of Delivery Partner would be. It was said they would work on Phase 1 but they would be going to procurement for this during 2024. The Partner will be required to work fast and deliver a very high-quality public realm.

The timescales for the two phases of work were discussed. It was said that having the transport infrastructure in place before further developing the area was the best way forward. This was a crucial part of the development and was partly why it was so important to appointment a Master Planner as early as possible.

A Member enquired about the reported biodiversity net loss and how planning policy required the developer (the council) to offset this and create a 10% net gain. Was it known yet which parks and/or greenspaces this would be carried out in? Officers said the project was seeking to identify where this would be and has received an extension



to its planning condition to enable sites to be identified within the Bristol area. Officers agreed to report back to the Commission when there is further information.

Action: Officers to report back and confirm which parks and/or greenspaces have been agreed upon to create the 10% biodiversity net gain.

At this point a Member asked officers they could respond to a point raised by Suzanne Audrey during Public Forum earlier in the meeting about the future of the Grosvenor Hotel and the adjacent row of bus stops.

The Executive Director said there had been a court order saying that the building had to be made safe. The schedule to complete that is now out of date and the work has not been carried out. The Council are in ongoing discussions with the owner. Ultimately the council, through its enforcement control function, could carry out the works itself but would rather not do that because obviously it's the responsibility of the owner and there are issues with costs. There was also a survey being conducted to ascertain if there are bats living in the building. The results of that survey were due any day. Any action would depend on the outcome of that survey.

Members enquired about the future of the fruit market. Officers confirmed it was privately owned and that they did want it to be part of the master plan. It was yet to be determined how it fitted in with the wider area. A proactive conversation would be had with the owners about how it's brought forward, so it could deliver in line with what they would what we want to see happen there.

The Chair highlighted the University of Bristol plot at Temple Quarter and that he understood they would be installing a large quantum computer that would therefore generate some considerable heat. Were the City Leap officers looking at the potential opportunities and going to be using it to provide either cooling or heat for the rest of the area? Officers said they were working with both City Leap and the University to maximise all the opportunities. The Director said he thought that was a good idea but wasn't aware of the two things being joined up, but he would look into that.

13 Work Programme 23-24

Members agreed the agenda for the November Commission meeting as listed on the Work Programme.

A brief discussion was had about whether the Local Plan would be added to the February agenda. This was not concluded.

It was agreed that the potential closer of railways ticking offices would be discussed at the next Leads – Planning Meeting.

Resolved: Members noted the Commissions Work Programme.

CHAIR _____







Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Commission Action Tracker 2023/2024

Agenda Item	Action	Responsible Officer / Member	Action taken and date completed
28th September 23			
6. Public Forum Page 17	Officers agreed to provide the figure for the total number of new homes that had been completed in 2022/23 and of which how many are classed as affordable, and how many of those are for social rent?	Felicity Williamson, Strategic Intelligence and Performance Advisor	The total number of new homes that had been completed in 2022/23 is 1,599. Of those, 309 of the properties were affordable housing (AH) for 2022-23. Of those 309 homes, 120 were for Social Rent.
9. Quarter 4 Performance Report	BPPM375 & BPPM374a Officers to provide further information on the current number of empty Council properties and average length relet times.	Felicity Williamson, Strategic Intelligence and Performance Advisor	For 2022-23 Q4 the figure was 351 empty council properties. The number of empty properties is not a 2023-24 Business Plan metric. 2023-24 BPPM377c Reduce average re-let times (all properties) Target 70 days Q1 105 days. <i>This information will also be sent to the Communities Scrutiny Commission.</i>
9. Quarter 4 Performance Report	Officers to clarify if the Council has a policy on under occupation of council properties and if it provides any incentives for people to down-size.	Felicity Williamson, Strategic Intelligence and Performance Advisor	Tenants wishing to down-size are prioritised in the Home Choice Allocation Scheme. Incentives are the opportunity for tenants to access lower costs homes in terms of rent and energy. In addition, when developing local lettings policies for new build, consideration is given to prioritising existing residents to downsize if that meets a local need. <i>This information will also be sent to the Communities Scrutiny Commission.</i>
9. Quarter 4 Performance Report	Actions P-HC1.2: Support the delivery of 1,000 low and zero carbon, affordable homes by 2024 by	Felicity Williamson, Strategic Intelligence and Performance	The £12m referred to is part of the £19.8m grant the Council has secured from the WECA Development Infrastructure Fund (DIF). As per the report approved by Cabinet in October 2023, the funding is to deliver enabling

Agenda Item	Action	Responsible Officer / Member	Action taken and date completed
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 18</p>	<p>investing £12m this year. Officers agreed to provide further information about how much of £12m funding had already been invested.</p>	<p>Advisor</p>	<p>infrastructure to accelerate delivery of the new housing development on Council-owned land at Hengrove Park. The Hengrove Park development, which is being delivered by Goram Homes, includes c. 1400 new homes (50% of which will be Affordable Housing), a c. 22 hectare new public park and community, sports and employment facilities. The WECA DIF funding will be used to deliver key enabling infrastructure including 3 upgraded highways junctions (currently on site), new highways and public realm at the centre of the development on Hengrove Boulevard (also currently on site), and roads, utilities, drainage and landscaping for the first phases of housing and the new public park. So far c. £950k of the funding has been drawn down and spent, a further £900k is forecast to be spent by the end of this financial year (2023/24), with the remainder of the funding profiled to be spent in 2024/25 and 2025/26 based on the current delivery programme.</p>
<p>9. Quarter 4 Performance Report</p>	<p>BPOM476 (QoL) Members requested any available data on the number of people travelling actively to work by walking and cycling.</p>	<p>Alex Hearn, Interim Director: Economy of Place Adam Crowther, Head of City Transport Felicity Williamson, Strategic Intelligence and Performance Advisor</p>	<p>From the QoL Dashboard the % drop in active travel is due to a rise in bus travel (+3%), driving to work (+2%) as well as e-scooters (+2%). Please note the numbers below have been rounded.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People travelling actively to work by walking and cycling fell 7% points from 39% (2021-22) to 32% (2022-23) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Walk to work: Fell 3% (from 20.5 to 17.5%) ○ Cycle to work: Fell 4% (from 18 to 14%) • Bus: Rose 3% (from 11 to 14%) • E-scooter: Rose 2% (from 0 to 1.6% - first time this option was included) • Drive to work: rose 2% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As driver rose 2.2% (36.6 to 38.8%) ○ As passenger getting lift fell 0.4% (from 2.7 to 2.3%) • Other travel modes broadly unchanged

Agenda Item	Action	Responsible Officer / Member	Action taken and date completed
<p>9. Quarter 4 Performance Report</p>	<p>BPPM477 Officers agreed to provide a further up-date on the number of public electric vehicle charging points that have been delivered.</p>	<p>Alex Hearn, Interim Director: Economy of Place</p> <p>Felicity Williamson, Strategic Intelligence and Performance Advisor</p>	<p>The focus for 2022-23 of EV charge point installation was centred around the lamppost charging project. This project was paused whilst a review was undertaken on the project's viability. As part of the council's collaboration with WECA on the Green Recovery Fund project, work is to be re-started with a focus on new charge points on lampposts and at community venues and destination points for 2024-25. There was also a delay in 2022-23 in the installation of the rapid charging point at the council's Fleet Services depot. This has now been rectified and is part of the Bristol City Leap EV charge point pipeline. Two charging bays were installed at the Bottle Yard Studio in 2022-23. For 2023-24, the current plan, in partnership with Bristol City Leap, is to deliver 12 fast chargers across the city serving 24 charging bays for delivery in Q4.</p>
<p>9. Quarter 4 Performance Report</p>	<p>Action P-TC4.3; replacing existing streetlights with LED lighting, showing as 'On Track'. Will it be possible to request lower lighting in some areas? Where will decisions be made and by whom? Officers to look into this and provide further information after the meeting.</p>	<p>Patsy Mellor, Director: Management of Place</p> <p>& Shaun Taylor, Head of Highways</p>	<p>The system being installed does allow us to reduce or increase lighting levels as required. We will be able to do this at an individual light, street, ward or city level.</p> <p>At present the project is delivering lighting levels to recommended British standard design levels for the location i.e. a junction has higher lighting levels than a straight residential street. This is clearly for road safety reasons and people often cross at junctions. Also spacing between columns often influence lighting levels. The further apart the high lighting levels needed to spread the light.</p> <p>The intention is to roll the project out citywide to it suitable design criteria. Once the project is delivered in March 25 we will be able to offer a solution about adjusting lighting levels and the criteria for this will be established at this time.</p> <p>In the meantime, any enquiries from residents we are dealing with on an individual basis. The reality is until people get adapted to the new lighting</p>

Agenda Item	Action	Responsible Officer / Member	Action taken and date completed
			we appear to be getting conflicting views from residents in the same streets.
12. Temple Quarter Regeneration Programme Update	Ref biodiversity net loss: Officers agreed to report back and confirm which parks and/or greenspaces have been decided upon to create the 10% biodiversity net gain.	John Smith, Interim Executive Director Growth and Regeneration & Clem Teagle, Communications and Engagement Manager, Temple Quarter	Officers will provide this information as soon as possible.

Growth & Regeneration Scrutiny Commission

27 November 2023



Report of: Felicity Williamson, Strategic Intelligence & Performance Advisor

Title: Quarterly Performance Report (Quarter 1 2023/24)

Ward: All wards

Officer Presenting Report: Felicity Williamson, Strategic Intelligence & Performance Advisor

Contact Telephone Number: N/A

Recommendation

That the Growth & Regeneration Scrutiny Commission note the progress to date against delivering relevant Priorities in the 7 Themes of the BCC Corporate Strategy 2022-27 and Business Plan 2023/24, and that Scrutiny members note areas of specific interest or concern to review progress with relevant Managers or Directors.

The significant issues in the report are:

In addition to Theme Summary reports for each of the 7 Themes in the BCC Corporate Strategy, this enhanced approach to performance reporting now includes a **Performance Dashboard** for each Scrutiny Commission, with all Performance Metrics and Actions at:

[2023-24 Performance Dashboard \(Q1 Scrutiny - public link\) NEW](#)

NB This new interactive Power Bi tool replaces the previous pdf data appendices.

For the Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny, of the overall Performance Metrics and Actions reported this quarter:

- **80%** of Business Plan Actions are currently **on track or better** (16 of 20)
- **20%** of Business Plan Priority Measures (with targets) are **on or better than target** (1 of 5)
- **75%** of all City Outcome Measures (with data & targets) are **on or better than target** (6 of 8)



1. Background context

Performance reporting is based on the Bristol City Council (BCC) [Corporate Strategy 2022-27](#). This report and appendices provide the relevant Performance Measures from the [Business Plan 2023/24](#), as approved by CLB in March and noted by Cabinet in April 2023. Key points of note:

Performance Dashboard - All Performance Metrics and Actions are at: [2023-24 Performance Dashboard \(Q1 Scrutiny - public link\) NEW](#); this new interactive Power Bi tool is replaces the previous pdf appendices (follow the links to view by individual Scrutiny Commissions).

Thematic Performance Clinics - As per the [Performance Framework 2023/24](#), reporting is primarily through Thematic Clinics which focus on overall Performance for each of the 7 Business Plan themes and address specific Performance Improvement issues. Appendix A2 contains all 7 Theme Summary reports.

Business Plan Actions – Performance reporting includes progress of the Business Plan Actions as well as Performance Metrics. This allows much more focus on delivery of the Business Plan Priorities.

Business Plan Priority Metrics / City Outcome Measures – Performance reports include **Business Plan Priority Metrics** (mainly quarterly measures for the Business Plan Priorities; metrics the council has direct responsibility over so measure council performance) plus **City Outcome Measures** (mainly annual indicators on the Corporate Strategy themes and overall ‘health of the city’; outcome-focused measures that are slow moving, with long-term targets).

Targets – Any Targets which require explanation, such as appearing counter-intuitive compared to last year’s outturn, are noted in [BCC 2023/24 Business Plan Performance Measures and Targets](#).

2. Summary

Overall Performance summary:

Taking the available Performance Metrics and Actions for this quarter, as relevant to the Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny remit:

- 80% of Business Plan Actions are currently on track or better (16 of 20)
- 20% of Business Plan Priority Measures (with targets) are on or better than target (1 of 5)
- 75% of all City Outcome Measures (with data & targets) are on or better than target (6 of 8)

Key Points of focus:

The Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Commission has 46 Performance Metrics and Actions across all 5 Themes, primarily in the Transport and Connectivity Theme (19) followed by Homes and Communities (9), Environment and Sustainability (8), Economy and Skills (8) and Effective Development Organisation (2).

Note: some Metrics are annual and are not updated in Q1.

Key points of note for this Scrutiny Commission from relevant Themes are below, plus

- all data on Actions, Performance metrics and City Outcomes (for each Scrutiny Commission remit) are in Appendix A1: [2023-24 Performance Dashboard \(Q1 Scrutiny - public link\) NEW](#)
- full Thematic Summary reports are included in Appendix A2

Theme 2 - Economy & Skills (4 Actions, 1 Priority Metric and 3 Outcome Measures):

- Three Actions relating to the updating the Local Plan and delivering sustainable, inclusive growth are all on track. **ES3.2 Deliver and invest in high quality cultural activities** is behind schedule due to visitor numbers being below target and City Events experiencing issues with event cancellations, mainly due to rising costs to promoters.

Theme 3 – Environment & Sustainability (6 Actions, 1 Priority Metric and 1 Outcome Measure):

- Five of the six Actions are all on track. **ENV2.2 Develop an ecological and green infrastructure investment plan** is behind schedule, as an Ecological Emergency Co-ordinator, who is to lead this work, has not been appointed and the project has not started.

Theme 5 - Homes & Communities (2 Actions, 3 Priority Metrics and 4 Outcome Measures):

- **HC1.1** and **BPOM425** Positive start to 2023/24 affordable homes delivery with 134 Q1 completions exceeding corporate target of 125 completions. However, forecasts for the year are below the Project 1000 target due to continued pressure in the development sector.
- **BPPM414 Improve energy efficiency from home installations** for low-income households living in the worst quality, off-gas grid homes is significantly worse than target due to delays in April caused by a change in the grant allocation process by the Department for Energy, Security and Net Zero. Delivery by City Leap, the work is on target for household sign-up numbers following increased marketing. Contractors are in place and it is expected that figures will be improved on Q1 performance but still be behind target in Q2.
- **BPPM103 Black Asian and minority ethnic led businesses supported** is worse than target due to the South Bristol project ending in March and only the North & East Bristol Enterprise Support project being extended until July. Until the new BrisBES programme starts in September 2023 numbers are likely to stay low.

Theme 6 – Transport & Connectivity (8 Actions, 3 Priority Metrics and 8 Outcome Measures):

- Seven of the eight Actions are on track. **TC1.1 Improve connectivity across the city via planned transport projects** is behind schedule with the Mass Transit Strategic Outline Business Case due to be delivered in October, delayed from June.
- **BPOM475 Bus passenger numbers** - continuing to increase and are well above the Q1 target (although still 15% below pre-pandemic levels).
- **BPOM474 Park and Ride passenger numbers** – these have stagnated and remain significantly worse than target.

3. Policy

Performance is reported as part of quarterly governance process as soon as possible after gathering all the necessary data and reporting through the BCC Decision Pathway.

All Business Plan performance metrics and actions contained within Appendix A1 are designed to demonstrate our progress towards the BCC Corporate Strategy 2022-27.

4. Consultation

a) Internal

Performance progress has been presented to relevant Divisional Management Teams (DMT), Thematic Performance Clinics, Executive Director Meetings (EDM), Corporate Leadership Board (CLB) and Cabinet Board prior to the production of this report.

b) External

Performance progress is also presented publicly to Cabinet.

5. Public Sector Equality Duties

- 5a) Before making a decision, section 149 Equality Act 2010 requires that each decision-maker considers the need to promote equality for persons with the following “protected characteristics”: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Each decision-maker must, therefore, have due regard to the need to:
- i) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act 2010.
 - ii) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:
 - remove or minimise disadvantage suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic;
 - take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of people who do not share it (in relation to disabled people, this includes, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities);
 - encourage persons who share a protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.
 - iii) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to –
 - tackle prejudice; and
 - promote understanding.
- 5b) Not applicable

Appendices:

Appendix A1: [2023-24 Performance Dashboard \(Q1 Scrutiny - public link\) NEW](#)

Appendix A2: All 7 Theme Summary reports

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 Background

Papers: None

Children & Young People Theme Summary Report

Qtr 1 (01 Apr '23 – 30 Jun '23)

This is the quarterly Theme Summary report highlighting progress against the relevant actions, performance metrics and City Outcomes from the 2023/24 Business Plan, inc summary from lead Director.

Report of the Lead Director: Fiona Tudge [Director Children, Families & Safer Communities]

Actions	Priority Metrics	City Outcomes	Overall Progress
Performance			On schedule
92% on schedule or better (11 of 12)	43% on target or better (3 of 7)	50% on target or better (1 of 2)	
Direction of Travel			
N/A	75% improved compared to 12 months ago (3/4)	100% improved compared to 12 months ago (2/2)	

1. Theme Actions / Priority Metrics performing well:

- BPPM247 - **Increase the percentage of Family Outcomes achieved through the Supporting Families programme** – Working with families to achieve identified outcomes had improved over the previous year and remains performing well in 2023/24.

2. Theme Actions / Priority Metrics that are of concern:

- BPPM200 -**Increase the percentage of children in care that have a full time suitable education provision**– this is a new measure this year that for the first quarter is performing slightly below target
- BPPM213 – **Reduce incidents of serious violence involving children and young people** – this is only performing worse than target by 0.5 so is close to target but performing slightly below
- BPOM201 - **Percentage of audited children's social work records rated good or better** – Performance as at 31 March '23 (reported with a 3 month data lag) has been amended from 70% to 54% following moderation and is now below target

3. Key points discussed at Thematic Performance Clinic, inc next steps:

Key points discussed at the Theme Clinic, plus next steps:

- Children education summary
- To continue to deliver existing action plan for low-income families; this is cross cutting.

Post-Clinic note – data for 1 Priority Metric (audited children's social work records ratings) was corrected after the Clinic discussion, changing from above target to well below. This is noted for Q2 review.

4. Lead Director Comments:

There was a discussion to ensure a narrative is added to measures to ensure an understanding of the context.

Discussed measures within education and clarity gained regarding what the measures are telling us and how they evidence impact.

For Q2 thematic meeting, Education colleagues to provide additional information on the education measures and have a focussed session on these metrics.

Update to be provided on measures:

- BPOM201 – Percentage of Audited children's social work records rated good or better.
- BPPM225e – Increase the percentage of final EHCPs issued within 20 weeks excluding exception cases.

Fiona Tudge [Children & Families Service]

Date of Thematic Performance Clinic

7/8/23

Economy & Skills Theme Summary Report

Qtr 1 (01 April 23 – 30 June 23)

This is the quarterly Theme Summary report highlighting progress against the relevant actions, performance metrics and City Outcomes from the 2023/24 Business Plan, inc summary from lead Director.

Lead Director: Christina Gray [Director Communities & Public Health]

Actions	Priority Metrics	City Outcomes	Overall Progress
Performance			On schedule
75% on schedule or better (9/12)	50% on target or better (4/8)	50% on target or better (2/4)	
Direction of Travel			
N/A	50% improved on 12 months ago (3/6)	67% improved on 12 months ago (2/3)	

1. Theme Actions / Priority Metrics performing well:

- BPPM270 – **Increase experience of work opportunities for priority groups** – This measure is well above target for Q1 at 1,845 and is performing significantly better than this time last year (718)
- BPOM269 - **No of adults aged 19+ who progress from all employment support activities into employment or better** – Outputs from employment support programmes have shown strong growth this quarter including Future Bright and WE WORK for Everyone
- BPPM506 – **Increase the level of social value generated from procurement and other council expenditure** - £6014k generated in Q1, already well over half of the annual target.

2. Theme Actions / Priority Metrics that are of concern:

- BPPM266 - **Increase % of adults with learning difficulties known to social care who are in paid employment** – significantly below target at 3.6%. KPI data currently being reviewed to understand the detail better.
- BPPM263a – **Reduce the % of young people aged 16-17 who are NEET/Not Known** - significantly below target and increase in NEET/Not Knowns compared to Q1 last year. This increase is expected annually and the team are currently contacting year 12's who may need support in applications for next year.
- PES3.2 – **Deliver high quality cultural activity that celebrates Bristol and attracts local, national and international audiences** – Visitor numbers across museums are rebounding to pre-Covid levels but still tracking behind. City events experience issues with cancellations mainly due to rising costs. This impacts visitor numbers.

3. Key points discussed at Thematic Performance Clinic, inc next steps:

Key points discussed at the Theme Clinic, plus next steps:

- The performance clinic was attended by a senior analyst along with service managers from Education & Skills and Adult Social Care (ASC), in order to focus on the metric “**Adults with learning difficulties known to social care who are in paid employment**”.
- It was noted that responsibility for this metric has moved from Employment, Skills & Learning to Adult Social Care for the current reporting year, and that it is part of a national stat return so data source and methodology cannot be changed.
- Following the last review of this action (in Q4 2023-23) work is ongoing to clean up the data to ensure that it is a correct reflection of the indicator which is focused on adults with a learning difficulty who are in receipt of longer-term ASC support who are in paid employment.

- This information may be in Care Act Reviews rather than recorded in the main ASC data system. There are around 1,000 adults in in this cohort, not all of whom will be able to work and others who may be in education or training.
- It was agreed more analysis of the cohort is needed to give clearer indication of the number who are available/interested in work.
- It was also noted that further work is needed to understand progress issues on the action re “**delivering cultural activity that celebrates Bristol and attracts visitors**”; to be a focus for Q2.

4. Lead Director Comments, inc summary of Theme rating:

Following the last review of the “Adults with learning difficulties known to social care who are in paid employment” metric at the Q4 E&S Clinic, significant work has been ongoing to improve the data quality to ensure it is a correct reflection of the relevant cohort, and to provide additional insight on those service users.

Also, a separate indicator is being developed by Employment, Skills & Learning colleagues to record and reflect progress made in access to education, skills and work for people with a learning difficulty who are not in receipt of ASC longer term support. It was agreed to keep this action under review.

Christina Gray [Director Communities & Public Health]

Date of Thematic Performance Clinic

2 Aug 2023

Environment & Sustainability Theme Summary Report

Qtr 1 (01 April 23 – 30 June 23)

This is the quarterly Theme Summary report highlighting progress against the relevant actions, performance metrics and City Outcomes from the 2023/24 Business Plan, inc. summary from lead Director.

Lead Director: Pete Anderson [Director Property, Assets and Infrastructure]

Actions	Priority Metrics	City Outcomes	Overall Progress
Performance			On schedule
87.5% on track or better (7/8)	100% on target or better (4/4)	100% on target or better (1/1)	
Direction of Travel			
Not relevant for Q1 (comparison is in-year)	75% improved compared to 12 months ago (3/4)	0% improved compared to 12 months ago (1/1)	

1. Theme Actions / Priority Metrics performing well:

- **BPPM542** – the amount of untreated waste landfilled has been very low this quarter due to the Energy Recovery Centres in Avonmouth being available to receive waste for the full period.
- **BPPM545** - Fly-tip clearances were significantly lower in May compared to the same period last year, which is why this measure is currently showing as significantly better than target.
- **P-ENV3.2** - The expansion across the city of the commercial waste improvement project continues apace and is on schedule. Phase 3 is now completed (Stapleton Road) - we are now moving into Phase 4 - Gloucester Road corridor to city centre.

2. Theme Actions / Priority Metrics that are of concern:

- **P-ENV2.2** – Developing an ecological and green infrastructure investment plan is showing as behind schedule. This is due to the lack of appointment to the Ecological Emergency Co-ordinator role who is to lead this work. The project has therefore yet to start.

3. Key points discussed at Thematic Performance Clinic, inc next steps:

Key points discussed at the Theme Clinic, plus next steps:

- The Clinic was postponed due to Director leave – rescheduled for 7th Sept.

4. Lead Director Comments, inc summary of Theme rating:

It is heartening to see all but one of the associated metrics and actions for the Environment & Sustainability theme being either on track (actions) or better than target (metrics). Recruitment of an Ecological Emergency Co-ordinator should help with bringing our one 'behind schedule' action back on track next quarter. Details of the specifics on all the associated measures can be found in Appendix B.

Pete Anderson [Director Property, Assets and Infrastructure]

Date of Thematic Performance Clinic

7 September 2023

Health, Care & Wellbeing Theme Summary Report

Qtr 1 (01 April 23 – 30 June 23)

This is the quarterly Theme Summary report highlighting progress against the relevant actions, performance metrics and City Outcomes from the 2023/24 Business Plan, inc summary from lead Director.

Lead Director: Mette Jakobsen [Director Adult Social Care]

Actions	Priority Metrics	City Outcomes	Overall Progress
Performance			On schedule
100% on track or better (7/7)	43% on target or better (3/7)	Data not yet due	
Direction of Travel			
Not relevant for Q1 (comparison is in-year)	71% improved compared to 12 months ago (5/7)	Data not yet due	

1. Theme Actions / Priority Metrics performing well:

- All of the published actions (100%) for this theme are presently on schedule.
- 5 of the performance metrics (71%) are better than Q1 in 2021/22.
- 3 of the performance metrics (43%) are better than the Q1 target:
 - increase the percentage of service users (aged 18-64) receiving Tier 3 (long term care) at home or tenancy [snapshot]
 - increase the percentage of service users (aged 65+) receiving Tier 3 (long term care) at home or tenancy [snapshot]
 - Increase % of BCC regulated CQC Care Service providers where provision is rated 'Good or Better'

2. Theme Actions / Priority Metrics that are of concern:

- Reduce the percentage of contacts to Adult Social Care (aged 18-64) starting Tier 3 services
- Reduce the percentage of contacts to Adult Social Care (aged 65+) starting Tier 3 services
- Number of service users (aged 18-64) in Tier 3 (long term care) [Snapshot]
- Number of service users (aged 65+) in Tier 3 (long term care) [Snapshot]

3. Key points discussed at Thematic Performance Clinic, inc next steps:

Key points discussed at the Theme Clinic, plus next steps:

- **Deliver actions to address Food Equality along with key partners to address food inequality in the city.**
 - The Food Equality Plan production was overseen and approved by Cabinet Members and the Health & Wellbeing Board. The actions in the plan were co-produced by the people of Bristol, including Train more food educators / map food support settings / pilot community-led Food Justice Networks.
 - Feeding Bristol and the Public Health Team will produce an annual report on food equality in Bristol.
- **Work with partners across the Integrated Care System, NHS and VCSE sector to develop an Integrated Care strategy.**
 - As at Q1 the Integrated Care Strategy has been completed and endorsed by all partners at the Integrated Care Partnership Board and the action was marked as "On Track". The reality is that each partner will be taking the strategy to each of their governance forums for information, for Bristol this will be presented to Cabinet in September '23.

• **Develop and implement a Damp and Mould action plan.**

- Damp & Mould does not occur because of lifestyle (cooking / drying clothes / showering) it goes deeper into the design of the property and as a landlord we have a duty to ensure the safety of our tenants, in our 27,000 homes.
- The plan is to move away from being a reactive landlord and fixing issues and become a proactive landlord and prevent the issue of Damp & Mould occurring in the first place.
- In June '23 cabinet approved the plan for an external company to be commissioned to carry out house condition surveys, with the aim of completing surveys of 40% of council homes from Autumn '23 - Autumn '24.
- The Damp & Mould Policy gives a framework to remove the onus from tenants and back to us, as the landlord; with better record keeping & data analysis, training & awareness of staff and improved communications of the issue
- At present the Damp & Mould policy is awaiting formal approval / sign-off by the council.
- Following policy approval, it may be a good idea to include Social Workers (as well as Housing staff) in future awareness training.

4. Lead Director Comments, inc summary of Theme rating:

There has been a lot achieved in the first three months of the year, with some actions completed and some to be completed or near completion by the end of 2023. Pleasingly all actions were reported at 30 June '23, as 'On Track' and most notably the action around creating a shared Integrated Care Strategy has been completed and published at: [Our Strategy - BNSSG Healthier Together](#)

Whilst 4 performance indicators are showing 'Below Target', 71% of the priority performance metrics are better than Q1 in 2021/22. The 4 x KPIs that are presently 'Below Target' are within my Directorate, Adult Social Care, and the position is being closely monitored.

There was contrasting performance across the Health, Care & Wellbeing Theme in Q1, but on balance the Theme is judged to be "On Schedule" for where we expect it to be.

Mette Jakobsen [Director - Adult Social Care]

Date of Thematic Performance Clinic

7 August 2023

Homes & Communities Theme Summary Report

Qtr 1 (01 April 23 – 30 June 23)

This is the quarterly Theme Summary report highlighting progress against the relevant actions, performance metrics and City Outcomes from the 2023/24 [Business Plan](#), inc summary from lead Director.

Lead Director: Donald Graham [Director Housing and Landlord Services]

Actions	Priority Metrics	City Outcomes	Overall Progress
Performance			On schedule
92% on track or better (12/13)	64% on target or better (9/14)	100% on target or better (3/3)	
Direction of Travel			
Not relevant for Q1 (comparison is in-year)	57% improved compared to 12 months ago (8/14)	50% improved compared to 12 months ago (1/2)	

1. Theme Actions / Priority Metrics performing well:

- Community work continues to perform above target (citizen clean-ups, community engagement).
- People enabled to live independently through home adaptations (939), above target (850).
- 474 households were moved into settled accommodation – significantly above the Q1 target (275).
- 142 private sector dwellings were returned to occupation against at Q1 target of 75.
- Highest recorded consultation response rate from 20% most deprived areas when compared to 20% least deprived areas.

2. Theme Actions / Priority Metrics that are of concern:

- Average re-let times are now 105 days (75 days in Q1 2022-23), rising for 4 consecutive quarters.
- Energy efficiency home installations are significantly behind target.
- Homelessness prevention is improved on 2022-23 Q4, but behind the Q1 target (352 households compared to a target of 388).
- The number of households in Temporary Accommodation (1,323) is within target but has continued to increase for an 8th consecutive quarter.
- Housing delivery (including affordable) is above target for Q1, but expected to slip as the year progresses.

3. Key points discussed at Thematic Performance Clinic, inc next steps:

Key points discussed at the Theme Clinic, plus next steps:

- The shift in council policy to focus on using council properties for Temporary Accommodation (TA) to reduce the spend on private property means the nature of voids is changing, increasing the amount of work required on TA properties and reducing the resource available for non-TA properties. Issues with the mobilisation speed and capacity of the new contractor framework have added to the backlog. Improvement is not expected to be seen until Q3. Focus is now on:
 - Reducing the number of void properties that need major work before re-let by improving tenancy audit numbers and information flow between Repairs and Estates.
 - Agreement with additional contractors to take on small numbers of void properties as well as repair work from end of Q2.
 - Working on both the backlog and new properties (rather than just the oldest properties) to improve the average turnaround times.
- Energy efficiency upgrades and low carbon heating for low-income households living in the worst quality, off-gas grid homes from the Home Upgrade Grant 2 scheme delivered by City Leap is on target for household sign-up numbers following increased marketing and a BBC Points West item.

Contractors are in place to do the work and it is expected that figures will be improved on Q1 performance but still behind target in Q2.

4. Lead Director Comments, inc summary of Theme rating:

The Theme is judged to be “On Schedule” overall with most actions and metrics on track or better than target. The two metrics discussed at the clinic are performing significantly worse than their targets. Given the council focus on reducing the spend on Temporary Accommodation and the capacity of contractors, void performance is not expected to improve until at least Q3.

Donald Graham [Director Housing and Landlord Services]

Date of Thematic Performance Clinic

7 Aug 2023

Transport & Connectivity Theme Summary Report

Qtr 1 (01 April 23 – 30 June 23)

This is the quarterly Theme Summary report highlighting progress against the relevant actions, performance metrics and City Outcomes from the 2023/24 [Business Plan](#), inc summary from lead Director.

Lead Director: Patsy Mellow [Director Management of Place]

Actions	Priority Metrics	City Outcomes	Overall Progress
Performance			On schedule
88% on track or better (7/8)	0% on target or better (0/1)	67% on target or better (2/3)	
Direction of Travel			
Not relevant for Q1 (comparison is in-year)	0% improved compared to 12 months ago (0/1)	67% improved compared to 12 months ago (2/3)	

1. Theme Actions / Priority Metrics performing well:

- The Enhanced Partnership with WECA and bus operators in place and the board sitting regularly to oversee decision making.
- **BPOM 475** Bus passenger numbers are continuing to increase and are 110,000 above the Q1 target (although still 15% below pre-pandemic levels).
- The Cumberland Road, Redcliffe Bridge and Goal Ferry works programmed to complete in August.

2. Theme Actions / Priority Metrics that are of concern:

- **BPOM 474** Park and Ride passenger numbers have stagnated in Q1
- **TC1.1** Mass Transit Strategic Outline Business Case is now due in October 2023, delayed from June

3. Key points discussed at Thematic Performance Clinic, inc next steps:

Key points discussed at the Theme Clinic, plus next steps:

Park and Ride numbers are not expected to return to pre pandemic levels. However, improvements are expected following:

- Increase in the metro bus M2 frequency from every 20 minutes to 15 minutes in April 2023
- Improvement in Long Ashton P&R journey times following August completion of the Cumberland roadworks
- WECA Park & Ride promotion campaign and re-branding of Stage Coach vehicles
- New, free birthday month bus travel scheme which aims to change people's habits.

Transport projects

The A4 scheme is going out to consultation this month but may be re-baselined and progressed in the next CRSTS (City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement) period. The M32 project has cohesion and momentum and is moving forward, following previous delays which were a result of taking time to identify the right solution. The A37/4018 projects have some elements progressing more quickly than anticipated and some are slower. City Centre – looking at elements that can be accelerated and discussions with First Bus are now happening following previous delays with a proposal to go to Cabinet in September. The Bedminster Green project in on time and budget. Hartcliffe and Hengrove Metrobus improvements are next to be considered.

Post-Clinic note – data for the 1 Priority Metric (number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic incidents) was provided after the Clinic discussion had taken place. However, this data is an interim BCC estimate of road traffic injuries as we are still awaiting the actual data from Avon & Somerset Police due to ongoing issues with the Police data reporting system.

4. Lead Director Comments, inc summary of Theme rating:

BPOM 474 Increase the numbers of park and ride Journeys into Bristol: As well as the points raised above the team also highlighted that they are in discussion with WECA assessing how we shape the offer to be user friendly for off peak journeys, currently the focus in on commuters.

TC1.1 Mass Transit Strategic Outline Business Case is now due in October 2023, delayed from June: There is a rebasing exercise underway that will be complete by the end of August that will then go WECA & DfT for agreement

Patsy Mellow [Director Management of Place]

Date of Thematic Performance Clinic

10 Aug 2023

Effective Development Organisation Theme Summary Report

Qtr 1 (01 April 23 – 30 June 23)

This is the quarterly Theme Summary report highlighting progress against the relevant actions, performance metrics and City Outcomes from the 2023/24 Business Plan, inc. summary from lead Director.

Lead Director: Tim Borrett [Director Policy, Strategy and Digital]

Actions	Priority Metrics	City Outcomes	Overall Progress
Performance			Behind schedule
100% on track or better (12/12)	36% on target or better (4/11)	No metrics reported on during Q1	
Direction of Travel			
Not relevant for Q1 (comparison is in-year)	50% improved compared to 12 months ago (5/10)	N/A for Q1	

1. Theme Actions / Priority Metrics performing well:

- **BPPM515** - *Reduce the % of complaints escalated from Stage 1 to Stage 2* is showing as significantly better than target, however it should be noted that a high number of Waste and Clean Air Zone cases, which account for 40% of the overall number of complaints received, don't tend to escalate past the initial complaint stage. However, this is still a notable improvement from last quarter.
- **P-EDO5.1** - *Preparing the organisation for its change to a committee model of governance* is progressing well. The next phase of activities will focus on rewriting relevant parts of the Constitution and managing external partnerships. In addition, a 2024 Steering Group of officers has been established to prepare the organisation for the changes ahead (meetings pulse, staff training, public information etc.).
- **P-EDO2.3** – *The restructure and redesign of our corporate support services to deliver ambitious savings targets that help address our budget challenge* is on track to deliver. Many restructures are complete or in-flight, including Policy, Strategy and Communications (complete); Digital Transformation (completion in Q2); HR (completion in Q2/3) and Finance (completion in Q2/3).

2. Theme Actions / Priority Metrics that are of concern:

- **BPPM516** - *Increase the percentage of Corporate FOI requests responded to within 20 working days* is showing as significantly worse than target. It is likely that stretched resources, a lack of understanding of the requirements of FOI handling or applicable exemptions, and a culture of deprioritisation of such requests are key factors that exist in certain parts of the organisation.
- **BPPM529** - *Increase the % of young people (16-29) in the Council's workforce* remains significantly worse than target. Recruitment of young people is a long-standing priority for the Council, as it is for the public sector more generally. We continue to market entry level jobs (including apprenticeships) and are committed to exploring other avenues through which this disparity can be addressed. An increased focus on apprenticeships and career progression opportunities is hoped to attract a greater number of younger people applying to work at the council.
- **BPPM522** - *Reduce the average number of working days lost to sickness (BCC)* – while there has been a slight improvement this quarter for the first time in two years, this remains significantly worse than target. The level of sickness is predominantly down to an increase in long-term sickness cases. Recent work with HR to provide targeted support to managers to help them manage sickness absence cases is having an impact which we expect to see being maintained. This support includes drop-in advisory sessions and specialist advice and support for areas with high sickness levels.

3. Key points discussed at Thematic Performance Clinic, inc. next steps:

Key points discussed at the Thematic Clinic, plus any next steps:

The Clinic discussed changing elements of the Performance Reporting Framework to include:

- Piloting a 2 hour 'CLB style' quarterly performance meeting. This would include compliance issues from central areas of the business – such as FOI, Procurement, Information Governance, Audit etc. – alongside a session on one or two identified issues from across the Authority that would benefit from a discussion in the round with senior leaders.
- A proposal was also made to pause the quarterly Thematic performance clinics for Q2 23/24 to create capacity to run this pilot. These would be replaced to some degree by the lengthened CLB style session described above.
- The Power BI performance dashboard would be available to Members as well as senior officers at an early stage each reporting period. This should go some way in addressing previously raised concerns around the length of time it takes for Members to have oversight of performance. The clinic also agreed proposing a more rigid deadline for managers when compiling quarterly results and an accelerated 'decision pathway', to bring quarterly performance reporting in-step with other quarterly reports.
- It should be noted that this new approach is subject to agreement with the CEO and Cabinet Member, and if approved would be implemented for Q2 reporting.

4. Lead Director Comments, inc. summary of Theme rating:

Overall progress is reported as behind schedule for Q1, although encouragingly all Actions are on track. Some metrics are persistently behind target, and as noted in last quarter's report there are both capacity and cultural reasons for this. With new management objectives now rolled out in the organisation to set standards for this, and with a potential new approach to reviewing key corporate health and compliance measures at CLB to be trialled next quarter, there should be a continuing focus on ensuring that core fundamental tasks (such as answering FOIs, paying invoices on time, and responding to complaints) are not deprioritised. Senior leaders and other managers should seek to challenge pockets of culture where compliance may be portrayed as coming at the expense of service delivery. If there are any areas where this is a true risk, the senior leaders should discuss this overtly and make a conscious, recorded decision at CLB or EDM about what to prioritise, ensuring that Cabinet Members are consulted and that the decision is reported to Members and communicated to colleagues. It should be noted that many challenging areas of performance, such as FOI, are statutory requirements and therefore should not be considered suitable for being deprioritised.

Tim Borrett, Director: Policy, Strategy and Digital

Date of Thematic Performance Clinic

1 August 2023

Scrutiny Corporate Performance Reporting User Guide (October 2023)

When you first access the [2023-24 Performance Dashboard \(Q1 Scrutiny Public\) NEW*](#) you should see a summary page (referred to as the **Home Page** if you need to get back to it). The information on this page will build up over time as the year progresses through each quarter.

*NB The link and images below are Quarter 1 so will change for subsequent updates, but the principle is the same.

Click this button to view more detail

Keep an eye on the options the buttons in the bottom left-hand corner give you. Further into the Dashboard they allow you to return to the Home Page or reset a page.

You should get the following page when you click on the button that says **Click to view Business Plan Themes by Scrutiny Commission**

Click these boxes on and off to change the charts to display information for an individual scrutiny commission

Click on these buttons to view information about the three types of performance measures. Each button relates to more detailed information behind one of the three bar charts on this page. If you want to know more about the red (Significantly worse than target) Priority metrics in the middle bar chart, click on the **Priority Metrics** button.

The screenshot below shows the **Actions**. The page title will tell you which view you are looking at.

Click these boxes on and off to see information for an individual scrutiny commission or particular status

Scrutiny Commission by Actions 2023/24

Scrutiny (select all for OSMB)

Actions: 12 | Actions with status: 12 | On track or better: 92%

Status Change compared to previous quarter: 1 Behind Schedule, 11 On Track

As business plan actions can change each year, comparison is only 'in-year'.

Code	Division Responsible	Title	Q1	Q1 Action Progress
P-EDO6.1	G&R - Property, Assets & Infrastructure	Continue to Implement the Corporate Landlord model. Focus on progressing with the office and depot rationalisation workstreams in order to deliver revenue savings.	1	Office and depot rationalisation are key workstreams of the Property Transformation Programme. Corporate Finance are actively reviewing the ledgers to identify revenue savings from buildings identified for disposal. Ernest Young (Finance Strategic Partner) have been commencing work on a new Corporate Landlord financial model for the Council. Options paper to ensure that the revenue target is achieved presented at September 2023 Cabinet.
P-EDO6.2	G&R - Property, Assets & Infrastructure	Continue to deliver the wider disposals programme and support generating capital receipts.	1	The Disposals Programme is now an integral workstream of the Property Transformation Programme (top 4 council savings priorities). The Property Board is now meeting on a 6 weekly basis with the sole purpose of agreeing property asset disposals. Cabinet received a disposal Options paper to ensure that the capital receipts target is achieved for 2023-24 is to be presented at September 2023 Cabinet.

You can move this slider down to view more of the table

Scrutiny Commission by Actions 2023/24

Scrutiny (select all for OSMB)

Actions: 1 | Actions with status: 1 | On track or better: 0%

Status Change compared to previous quarter: 1 Behind Schedule, 0 On Track

Data on quarterly status change will be available after completion of quarter 2.

As business plan actions can change each year, comparison is only 'in-year'.

Code	Division Responsible	Title	Q1	Q1 Action Progress
P-ES5.2	G&R - Housing & Landlord Services	Continue work to deliver a digital service for council housing residents by 2024, increasing access to ultra-fast fibre broadband.	1	Project paused throughout covid, however has been resourced to re-ignite. Project board re-created with new membership, Stakeholders and contractors agreeing composite wayleaves, surveying standard and financing model to contribute to internal costs; allowing for scale up of project to catch up on lost time.

You can click on a chunk in the bar chart to view the corresponding text in the table below. Click on the chunk for a second time to get the full table contents back.

If you get in a muddle, just click the Reset Page button in the bottom left corner.

Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Commission 27th November 2023



Report of: Alex Hearn, Interim Director – Economy of Place

Title: City Centre & High Streets Recovery and Renewal

Ward: All

Officer Presenting Report: Jason Thorne – City Centre & High Streets Service Manager

Contact Telephone Number: 07827 896605

Recommendation:

That the Commission notes this report and the progress of the City Centre & High Streets Recovery and Renewal Programme.

The significant issues in the report are:

The City Centre & High Streets Recovery and Renewal programme is delivering over £7m investment across the city, to safeguard and create businesses and employment opportunities.

The programme is being delivered in collaboration with businesses, communities, and stakeholders, who have helped inform interventions ensuring they meet needs and reconnect places with people. It is supporting the recovery of key sectors that have been most affected by the pandemic and the cost of living crisis; these include retail, hospitality, culture and events sectors, and night-time economy.



1. Summary

This report sets out the background, progress and benefits of the City Centre & High Streets Recovery and Renewal programme. Councillors requested an update on Business Improvement Districts and transport projects, these are addressed in this paper.

2. Context

City Centre & High Streets Recovery and Renewal Programme

1. A number of funding sources have been allocated since 2021 as a result of the pandemic and have been brought together to enable the development of a programme of support. The City Centre & High Streets Recovery and Renewal programme is delivering investment across the city in designated high streets, to safeguard and create businesses and employment opportunities, including within the retail, leisure, tourism, creative, events and hospitality sectors, across the day and night.
2. The objectives of the programme are to:
 - Reimagine and repurpose high streets to meet local need, improve the mix and variety of offer, support economic inclusion, facilitate access to jobs and skills development.
 - Support new enterprises, which will help create new employment opportunities.
 - Reduce vacancy rates by bringing commercial properties back into use.
 - Increase footfall by reanimating our high streets, through locally distinctive and inclusive cultural and creative events and activities, meanwhile and innovative uses, and supporting a vibrant night-time economy.
 - Support existing high street businesses to assist recovery and growth by engaging businesses across the city. Providing advice and information on a range of business support services including sustainable and green business practices, Living Wage, Bristol Eating Better and skills.
 - Enhance the street scene and green infrastructure by improving the appearance of the areas and supporting biodiversity and climate priorities.
3. The programme includes the following citywide packages of support:
 - **Business Development and Support** – 1:1 visits to high street businesses to understand their needs and provide support/signposting. Our Business Development Officers have so far engaged with 1,049 businesses, 483 of these have been provided with support (62 with 3 hours or more) and 101 referrals have been made to other forms of support via partners and initiatives such as YTKO, Business & Intellectual Property Centre, Growth Hub, Living Wage.
 - A business information booklet has been produced to provide businesses with information on support available, www.bristol.gov.uk/files/documents/689-business-information-booklet/file
 - A fortnightly business newsletter on support and initiatives is produced, businesses can sign-up via www.bristol.gov.uk/businessnewsletter. The newsletter is sent to 2,714 recipients.

- Effective engagement ensures we can understand key issues/concerns from the business community we are supporting. The cost of living crisis is a significant concern to businesses, especially amongst the hospitality sector (pubs, bars, restaurants, cafes). Businesses are also concerned about the possible loss of business rate relief currently in place until March 2024 for retail, hospitality and leisure properties. It is hoped that ongoing support will be part of the Government's Autumn Statement.
- **Vacant Commercial Property Grant Scheme** – businesses/organisations are able to apply for up to £10,000 of capital funding to bring a vacant commercial property back into use. 477 enquiries were received about the grant and 104 applications approved between November 2021 and October 2023. Further information on the scheme, including case studies of some of those businesses/organisations funded to date, can be found at www.bristol.gov.uk/vcpg
- Applications have been approved in a range of locations, including the City Centre, Brislington, Church Rd (St George), Crow Lane, Chandos Rd, Stapleton Rd, East St, Fishponds Rd, Gloucester Rd, Filwood Broadway, Henleaze Rd, North St, St Marks Rd, Two Mile Hill and Whiteladies Rd. Types of businesses supported include bakeries, gyms, bookshops, DIY, plant sales, hairdressers, art gallery, cooking school, clothes sales, furniture shop, arts and creative.
- Evaluation of the scheme will include number of businesses supported, jobs created/sustained and business rates income generated.
- The council acted as convenor to bring together M&S and Global Goals/Arts Space Lifespace to enable the meanwhile use of the former M&S building within Broadmead as Sparks Bristol. Sparks Bristol provides a practical and exciting way for people to engage in the UN Sustainable Development Goals (which the One City Economic Recovery & Renewal Strategy is based on) through education and creativity. Bristol Sparks opened in May 2023 and will occupy the space until at least 2025. See www.sparksbristol.co.uk and case study in Appendix A.
- The council will shortly be convening a Vacant Property Task Force, focused on the opportunities and barriers of bringing vacant property within the City Centre back into use. The task force will include Business Improvement Districts, The Galleries, Cabot Circus and property agent representatives amongst others.
- The City Centre & High Streets team has been part of a small group helping to shape the Government's approach to High Street Rental Auctions which will be implemented as part of the Levelling-Up and Regeneration Bill. See www.gov.uk/government/consultations/high-street-rental-auctions/high-street-rental-auctions
- **Marketing and Promotion** – including the Where's It To campaign promoting the independent business offer across the city's high streets, see www.wheresittobristol.com, Bristol Rules Night Safety campaign, see www.bristolnights.co.uk, social media accounts - @ShopLocalBris X, Shop Local Bristol Facebook and @ShopLocalBris Instagram have 23,057 followers.
- **Markets Review** – work has recently begun to carry out a Markets Review. This will consider the role that St Nicholas Market and other markets play in supporting small businesses, animating the City Centre and high streets, and helping address exclusion issues. We plan to start engagement on the review in January 2024.

Priority high streets

4. The programme also includes geographically targeted interventions which focus on a more inclusive culture and events offer to attract people back to high streets, and street scene and green infrastructure enhancements to improve the look and feel. These interventions are focused on the City Centre and nine local high streets - Brislington (Brislington Hill/Bristol Hill), Church Road (St George), East Street (Bedminster), Filton Avenue, Filwood Broadway, Shirehampton High Street, Stapleton Road, Stockwood (Hollway Road/ Stockwood Road), Two Mile Hill.

5. A summary of the engagement feedback and individual high street plans are available online at www.bristol.gov.uk/business/business-support-and-advice/high-streets/city-centre-and-high-streets-recovery/improvements. Each high street is unique, with a different range of businesses serving their local communities, people fed back that they would like to see a greater mix of shops, services and community facilities. People are concerned about the appearance of their high streets, with improved litter and recycling facilities and more greenery (trees or planters) being a priority. Anti-social behaviour, poor parking provision and illegal parking were raised in a few areas. Most areas were keen to see the introduction of a street market to provide an activity to attract more footfall to support existing businesses.

Culture and events in priority high streets

6. The City Centre was the initial priority as the economic and cultural hub of the city and region. In common with other city centres, it is viewed as being most negatively impacted by the pandemic due the lockdowns and changes in working practices (people working from home). The focus has been on the delivery of family friendly and inclusive culture and event activities to boost footfall by encouraging people back into the city centre. The delivery of culture and events activity in the City Centre and 9 priority high streets (within the current programme) came to an end in October.

7. The culture and events activity has been diverse, within the City Centre it has included Night Markets at St Nicholas, Better Sundays in Broadmead Markets, Little Amal in Old City and King Street, Grand Iftar on College Green, Light Festival, Windrush 75 Stories through Film in Broadmead, Summer of Film Takeover events in Broadmead and Old City. In the priority high streets activity has included markets, lantern/community parades, public art workshops and installations. Further details can be found in Appendix A and B.

8. The investment in culture and events has seen a good level of economic benefit and return. Evaluation is ongoing. Evaluation of 38 events delivered to date shows that they have generated 138,000 visits, an estimated £2.24m of spend and supported 546 paid creative/event professional jobs. Spend on the delivery of the events evaluated to date was £692,000.

Street scene and greening in priority high streets

9. Most of the street scene and greening interventions are in the planning stage and will be delivered in Spring 2024, subject to engagement, procurement and contractor availability. Engagement on draft designs for six of the high streets is underway until 10 December, see www.bristol.gov.uk/business/business-support-and-advice/high-streets/city-centre-and-high-streets-recovery/improvements
10. A pocket park next to Stockwood Library was installed in early November 2023 (see Appendix A). Proposed works to Stockwood Square and Stockwood Road will need a longer timescale into Autumn 2024, due to the need to carry out more extensive highways maintenance works.
11. One of the priority high streets - Filwood Broadway is the focus of £14.5m investment from the Government's Levelling Up Fund and £1.72m from Bristol City Council. High Street funding has been used to support improvements to the existing children's play area, these finished in mid-November. See Appendix A.

Footfall and commercial property vacancy rates

12. Footfall and commercial property vacancy rates are two indicators used to assess the health of high streets.
13. Footfall information for parts of the City Centre show a mixed picture in terms of recovery. St Nicholas Market and Broadmead footfall year to date (up to week 43) compared to the same period in 2022 was up 16.5% and 0.9% respectively, whereas Park Street and Victoria Street are down 11% and 28% respectively. The data for Park St has been improving as the year has progressed, but Victoria Street footfall is thought to have been negatively impacted by works to Bristol Bridge/Baldwin Street area. Available data for Bedminster for the same period (up to week 43) suggests a positive trend, up 18%. This compared to 2.7% increase for South West high streets and 3.9% increase for UK high streets.
14. The latest available commercial property vacancy rate data relating to July to September 2023 is 9.95% across all Bristol high streets. This is an increase from the April to June 2023 figure (9.02%) and is higher than the longer-term trend of around 9%. The commercial property vacancy rate for the City Centre has increased to 16.95% (from 15.01%) and is above the longer-term trend of around 15%.

Future of the programme

15. Funding has been secured to continue the programme into 2025, with further funding currently being bid for. The details are as follows:
16. The council has successfully applied for £0.489m of funding from the **UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UK SPF)** co-ordinated by the West of England Combined Authority. This was the subject of a Cabinet decision in March 2023.

17. The allocation of £1.5m **Strategic CIL for High Streets** was agreed by Full Council on 15 February 2022 (reference GR10 Improvements to Local Centres). The approach to the allocation of the funding was agreed by Cabinet on 3 October 2023. The £1.5m of CIL funding has been added to the programme, allowing it to continue with a focus on the City Centre and support three new priority high streets.

18. The City Centre continues to be a priority area, as a driver of the city and region's economy, being a key focus for employment, retail, tourism, leisure, culture, education, transport and healthcare.

19. The three additional high streets prioritised are Ashley Road/Grosvenor Road in St Paul's, Crow Lane in Henbury and Oatlands Avenue in Whitchurch. These have been selected considering the following criteria:

- They are within areas of growth and regeneration and/or have significant housing being developed or proposed with planning permission
- Geographic spread
- The need to focus on new areas outside of the current programme
- Levels of deprivation
- The need to focus on a smaller number of priority areas given the focus of Strategic CIL.

20. These four focus areas were previously highlighted to the Growth & Regeneration Scrutiny Commission in January 2023, after consultation with the Mayor's Office, who agreed this approach.

21. Up to £0.225m (15%) of the £1.5m has been allocated to the development and delivery of plans, including the recruitment of a dedicated part-time High Street Design & Delivery Officer. This will help mitigate against delays by increasing design capacity and skills.

22. The funding will be allocated to the development and delivery of tailored high street action plans for the areas.

23. Officers have carried out site visits to the new priority high streets. Engagement work is being planned for early 2024. The programme will run until September 2025, subject to community and business engagement, detailed designs, costings and contractor availability.

24. Officers are in the process of preparing a bid for further **High Streets Recovery & Adaptions** funding of up to £0.850m from the West of England Combined Authority. The funding will be aligned to the Combined Authority's Strategic Framework and delivery of the City Centre & High Streets Recovery and Renewal programme.

25. Our emerging themes for the funding developed in partnership with Regeneration colleagues and the Night Time Economy Advisor include:

City Centre and High Streets street scene and greening
East Street Community Hub, including Night Time Economy
City Centre and High Streets Culture and Events, including Night Economy animation
High Streets Going Green with a focus on greening businesses to save costs

Business Improvement Districts

26. Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) are defined geographical areas where local businesses / other occupiers (including public sector bodies such as local authorities) have voted in a ballot to pay an additional levy on their business rates during the course of a fixed term (no longer than five years). The funds raised from the levy enable the BID to deliver projects and activities that must be additional to those provided by a local authority and that fulfil aims and objectives determined in a business plan, developed through a consultation process with potential levy payers prior to a ballot taking place.

27. Legislation enabling the formation of BIDs was passed under the Local Government Act 2003, and the Business Improvement Districts (England) Regulations 2004. The council has been involved in BIDs since their inception, with the development of Broadmead BID as one of the country's original ten pilots.

28. Bristol has four BIDs – Broadmead, City Centre, Redcliffe & Temple and Clifton. These BIDs generate a combined £2.3m of investment per year and represent around 1,500 business/organisations.

29. Bedminster BID came to an end on 31 October 2023 after the majority of businesses who voted, voted against the new proposal by both number and rateable value.

30. A summary of the activities focused on by the BIDs can be found in Appendix C. This includes a summary of what Bedminster BID would have focused on had it been successful at ballot.

Transport projects benefiting High Streets

31. The need for better cycle parking is recognised in the draft City Centre Development & Delivery Plan (DDP), the consultation for which closed on 1 October 2023. For example, the DDP includes 'Create a new mobility hub at The Galleries as a focal point for blue badge parking, taxis, pick-ups, drop offs and e-scooter and cycle parking.' In addition, Bristol City Council sponsor a transport space within Sparks Bristol where they hold travel roadshow events and free bike repair sessions.

32. The Future Transport Zones programme is delivering 11 trial Mobility Hubs across Bristol City Council and South Gloucestershire council. They are located both along key transport corridors, and within local communities, such as at local high streets.

33. In Bristol mobility hubs are being developed in Ridingleaze, Filton Avenue; Gainsborough Square and Arnside Road, as well as at Portway Park and Ride. The Mobility Hubs will bring together transport infrastructure such as cycle stands, clearly designated parking for e-bikes and e-scooters operated by TIER, secure individual cycle lockers alongside public realm elements such as planting and seating, and wayfinding and travel information, making it easier and more enjoyable for people to travel sustainably. The Mobility Hubs are currently due to be delivered in the second quarter of 2024.

34. TIER in conjunction with the Combined Authority will be launching 20 nextbike by TIER e-cargo bikes across 10 back to base, virtual parking bays around Bristol and Bath. The specific 'nextbike by TIER' app will allow customers to rent, temporarily park and return vehicles, while loading and delivering their cargo, or transporting children for journeys priced at £1 to unlock then 5p per minute. The trial is aimed at reducing the need for car and van journeys for shorter round trips, and appeal to both local traders and the general public.

3. Policy

35. The City Centre & High Streets Recovery and Renewal programme supports the delivery of the Corporate Strategy 2022-2027. The strategy states 'In line with a recommendation from our 2020 Citizens' Assembly to re-imagine the places we live so that they are people centred, we want people to live in well-designed neighbourhoods where local high streets are thriving and supporting local economic wealth, people can work and play safely, as well as have access to healthy green spaces and sports facilities. We want all people to have social and cultural experiences that reflect their own identity and life. Evolving a shared narrative and understanding of the history that has shaped Bristol will strengthen the fabric of our communities and sense of belonging, unifying the city in recovery.'

36. The strategy also states 'Our ambition is for Bristol to be a city of sustainable communities that combines housing, employment, retail, education, training and leisure functions, all linked by a strong public transport network. We know that both major infrastructure and changes in behaviour take time, but over the next five years we will make progress towards becoming a better-connected city that enables people to move around efficiently, with increased transport options that are accessible to and inclusive of all. We will deliver an improved sustainable and resilient transport network that supports Bristol's vibrant independent local centres and neighbourhoods and connects to an attractive and thriving city centre.'

37. The programme helps to deliver Bristol's challenges are set out in the One City Economic Recovery & Renewal Strategy (October 2020), which sets out key priorities for the City Centre as a key destination for work, leisure, tourism and investment, and to protect and enhance the viability of high streets.

4. Consultation

a) Internal

Director – Economy of Place, Head of Economic Development, Regeneration, Housing Delivery, Strategic Transport, City Centre & High Streets Team

b) External

N/A

5. Public Sector Equality Duties

- 5a) Before making a decision, section 149 Equality Act 2010 requires that each decision-maker considers the need to promote equality for persons with the following “protected characteristics”: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Each decision-maker must, therefore, have due regard to the need to:
- i) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act 2010.
 - ii) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to --
 - remove or minimise disadvantage suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic;
 - take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of people who do not share it (in relation to disabled people, this includes, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities);
 - encourage persons who share a protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.
 - iii) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to –
 - tackle prejudice; and
 - promote understanding.
- 5b) An Equalities Impact Assessment can be found at Appendix D.

Appendices:

- Appendix A – Case studies of programme activities
- Appendix B – Culture and events activities
- Appendix C – Summary of Business Improvement Districts
- Appendix D – Equalities Impact Assessment

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers:

None

ⁱ In line with CIL Regulations, Strategic CIL funding can only be spent on capital infrastructure projects which support growth in its area e.g. lighting, bus stops, cycle lanes, junctions, highway

City Centre & High Streets Recovery and Renewal – case studies of activities

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Growth & Regeneration Scrutiny Commission

Jason Thorne, 27/11/23

Growth & Regeneration

City Centre & High Streets – Economic Development Slide 1



Vacant Property

Grant recipient case study - Sparks Bristol, former M&S property, Broadmead, opened May 2023

The council acted as convenor to bring together M&S and Global Goals/Arts Space Lifespace to enable the meanwhile use of the former M&S building as Sparks Bristol. Sparks Bristol provides a practical and exciting way for people to engage in the UN Sustainable Development Goals (which the One City Economic Recovery & Renewal Strategy is based on) through education and creativity. See www.sparksbristol.co.uk

Approx 93 jobs are directly supported, 136 business/organisations supported (inc suppliers)

Bristol Sparks will occupy the space until at least 2025. Officers are involved in project evaluation, ongoing support and sharing learning with other areas



Growth & Regeneration

City Centre & High Streets – Economic Development Slide 2



Vacant Property

Grant recipient case study – PROPS, Fishponds Road, opened Oct 23

'This grant enabled us to build our first high street café, designed to train and employ adults who have learning disabilities that we support here at Props. The impact of this funding will leave a legacy of inclusivity in Bristol and is the foundation of what we hope will be the start of a transformational shift towards disabled equality.'

See BBC news article - Fishponds café creating opportunities for disabled adults,
www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-bristol-67360470



Growth & Regeneration

City Centre & High Streets – Economic Development Slide 3



Vacant Property

Grant recipient case study – Robert's Bakery, Crow Lane (Henbury), opened Nov 22

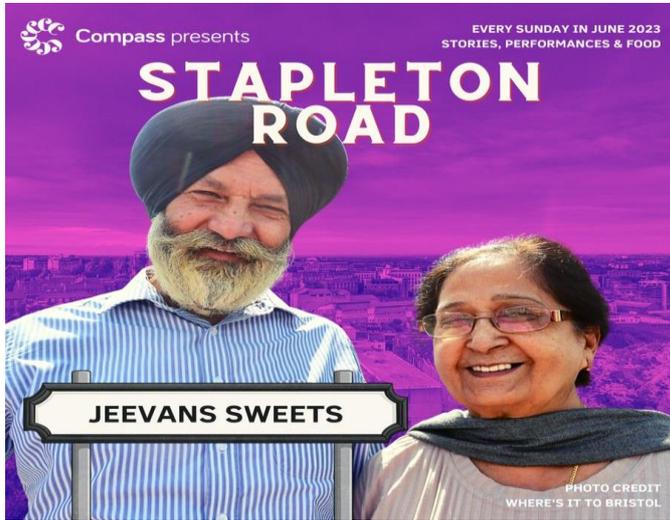
'I would like to thank you very much once again for receiving financial help from you. Thanks for this, I can be proud that I have a very good coffee machine and I must boast that my customers say that I have the best coffee in the whole of Crow Lane, thanks to you. My husband, who is also a baker, is very pleased with the mixers and proofer. It would be difficult for us without your help, especially since when you are just starting your adventure with your own business, every penny counts and all costs must be calculated carefully.'

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Robert's Bakery celebrated their first-year anniversary on 4 Nov 23 and husband and wife team Aneta and Robert were recently joined by a new full-time member of staff. Their daughter also works on a part time basis.



Culture and events



Growth & Regeneration

City Centre & High Streets – Economic Development Slide 5



Culture and events



Growth & Regeneration

City Centre & High Streets – Economic Development Slide 6



Culture and events

Quotes from visitors

'This was an incredible event. So important to bridge the existing divide in BS5 and contribute to integration between different communities. It's exactly the type of things needed to facilitate dialogue. I will definitely come back. The event has definitely allowed me to enter in spaces I had never thought of entering before. I am planning to get cushions made at the kora centre, eat Afghan food after my yoga class at 238 and go on an evening out for Jamaican food with friends who were not on the tour. I loved all of it.'

'Such a wonderful afternoon, learning about the local people, cultures and sharing food. Stapleton Road often has such a negative perception, this was a truly magical way to showcase the community, bridge divides and promote greater integration in East city. This should be a permanent fixture in Bristol!'

'I grew up in Stockwood and this is just what we need for our community, it was very busy and a great atmosphere, my only suggestion is to keep advertising it. Absolutely loved it.'

'Welcome and engaging teams. Stockwood has felt neglected and drab thus has injected life into the area and made me smile!'

Street scene and greening

Filwood Broadway children's play area (before and after), completed Nov 23



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Growth & Regeneration

City Centre & High Streets – Economic Development Slide 8



Street scene and greening

Stockwood pocket park (before and after) next to the library completed Nov 23
(before picture from Google)



Growth & Regeneration

City Centre & High Streets – Economic Development Slide 9



Culture and Events – examples of city centre activity

Night Markets at St Nicholas (2022/2023)
 Better Sundays in Broadmead Markets (2022/2023)
 Little Amal in Old City and King Street (June 2022)
 Jubilee event in Park Street (June 2022)
 Overstory green art installation and engagement in Broadmead (Aug 2022)
 Bump in the Night workshops and Lantern Parade in Broadmead, Old City and King Street in (Oct 2022),
 Light Festival (Mar 2022 and Feb 2023)
 Grand Iftar (Apr 2023)
 Bristol Comedy History Walk (May – Aug 2023)
 Weekends of Wonder In Broadmead (May/June 2023)
 Walking Forest in Broadmead, Old City and King Street (June 2023)
 Party on the Green, Park St (June 2023)
 Windrush 75 Stories through Film in Broadmead (June 2023)
 A Wall is a Screen in the Old City (June 2023)
 Bristol Cycle Cinema, Park Street, (July 2023)
 Public by Ockham's Razor in Broadmead (Aug 2023)
 Summer of Film Takeover events in Broadmead and Old City (June – Sept 2023)
 Old City Sounds (Aug 2023)
 New markets at St Nick's and a family trail (July – Sept 2023)

Culture and Events – examples of priority high streets activity

Brislington Village Market (2022/2023) and Brislington Art Club running community art workshops developing co-design public art interventions.

Church Road – A range of community activities at St Georges' Community Centre and Church Road Lantern Parade (Mar 2023) and shutter painting art interventions in development.

East Street – East Street Market (2023) , Bollard artistic treatment by Upfest (completed), community arts activity by ACTA and East Street Art Weekender.

Filton Avenue – Friends of Horfield Library community events (July 2023) and artistic interventions with the pocket parklet are in development (a mural and gates).

Filwood Broadway – dance, photography and craft workshops, Easter Trail (April 2023) and a community parade and Knowle West Fest (Aug 2023).

Shirehampton Community Market (2022/23), Window Wanderland (Mar 2023), Picturing Bristol photography workshops and commissions, artistic interventions to include a new mural in development and a community event will be delivered in Sept 2023.

Stapleton Road – Around the World in BS5 (June 2023) Community events (May, June, July 2023), Picturing Bristol photography workshops and commissions, shutter painting and gateway art interventions in development.

BIDs in Bristol: Summary

BID	Established	Current/Latest BID Term	Scheduled Renewal Date/End Date	BID annual Income (approx.)	BID Levy Rules Summary	Number of Properties (approx.)	Notes and main focus/activities
Bedminster	2013	3	31/10/2023	£148,000	<p align="center"><u>Multiplier:</u> 2%</p> <p align="center"><u>Exemptions:</u> RV <£5,000; Superstores and premises</p> <p align="center"><u>Reliefs:</u> Mandatory charity, 75%; no relief when empty</p>	425	Failed to secure a fourth term following a ballot held on 14/09/23. Arts, culture, marketing, crime/safety, public realm, transport, collective purchasing
Broadmead	2005	5	01/11/2028	£411,000	<p align="center"><u>Multiplier:</u> 3%; 0.75% if located in Galleries or The Arcade</p> <p align="center"><u>Exemptions:</u> RV <£13,000; Mandatory charity;</p> <p align="center"><u>Reliefs:</u> no relief when empty</p>	268	Events, marketing, public realm, business support/training, crime/safety, street cleansing
City Centre	2017	2	01/11/2027	£981,000	<p align="center"><u>Multiplier:</u> 1.5%; 0.75% some Registered Charity usages; 0.75% within Harbourside Managed Public Space</p> <p align="center"><u>Exemptions:</u> Cap of £20,000 on single property; Cap of £40,000 per levy payer; RV <£25,000 exempt unless RV >£11,999 and certain Premises Licence conditions exist</p> <p align="center"><u>Reliefs:</u> no relief when empty</p>	705	Events, marketing, public realm, crime/safety, street cleansing, business support/training

Clifton Village	2012	3	01/11/2027	£82,000	<u>Multiplier:</u> 1.5% <u>Exemptions:</u> RV <£6,000 <u>Reliefs:</u> 75% Mandatory charity; 50% Offices/Surgery; 50% Hotel; 75% Auxiliary Defence; no relief when empty	246	Events, marketing, transport, public realm/street scene, business support/training
Redcliffe & Temple	2021	1	01/11/2025	£830,000	<u>Multiplier:</u> 1.5% <u>Exemptions:</u> RV < £25,000 <u>Reliefs:</u> Cap of £20,000 on single property; Managed Spaces 50% reduction; no relief when empty	322	Events, marketing, crime/safety, sustainability, business support/training/networking



Equality Impact Assessment [version 2.12]

Title: City Centre & High Streets Recovery and Renewal	
<input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Function <input type="checkbox"/> Service <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other [please state] Programme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Already exists / review <input type="checkbox"/> Changing
Directorate: growth and regeneration	Lead Officer name: Jason Thorne
Service Area: Economic Development	Lead Officer role: Service Manager – City Centre & High Streets

Step 1: What do we want to do?

The purpose of an Equality Impact Assessment is to assist decision makers in understanding the impact of proposals as part of their duties under the Equality Act 2010. Detailed guidance to support completion can be found here [Equality Impact Assessments \(EqIA\) \(sharepoint.com\)](#).

This assessment should be started at the beginning of the process by someone with a good knowledge of the proposal and service area, and sufficient influence over the proposal. It is good practice to take a team approach to completing the equality impact assessment. Please contact the [Equality and Inclusion Team](#) early for advice and feedback.

1.1 What are the aims and objectives/purpose of this proposal?

Briefly explain the purpose of the proposal and why it is needed. Describe who it is aimed at and the intended aims / outcomes. Where known also summarise the key actions you plan to undertake. Please use plain English, avoiding jargon and acronyms. Equality Impact Assessments are viewed by a wide range of people including decision-makers and the wider public.

The Scrutiny report this Equality Impact Assessment accompanies sets out the background, progress and benefits of the City Centre and High Streets Recovery programme, our approach to the allocation of Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy for high streets and the allocation of West of England Combined Authority High Streets Recovery & Adaptions funding.

The overall objectives of the City Centre and High Streets Recovery programme are to:

- Reimagine and repurpose high streets to meet local need, improve the mix and variety of offer, support economic inclusion, facilitate access to jobs and skills development.
- Support new enterprises, which will help create new employment opportunities.
- Reduce vacancy rates by bringing commercial properties back into use.
- Increase footfall by reanimating our high streets, through locally distinctive and inclusive cultural and creative events and activities, meanwhile and innovative uses, and supporting a vibrant night-time economy.
- Support existing high street businesses to assist recovery and growth by engaging businesses across the city. Providing advice and information on a range of business support services including sustainable and green business practices, the Real Living Wage, the Bristol Eating Better award and skills
- Enhance the street scene and green infrastructure by improving the appearance of targeted areas and supporting biodiversity and climate priorities.

While this phase of the City Centre and High Streets Recovery programme will continue to deliver citywide activity, three high streets will be targeted. These are Ashley Road/Grosvenor Road (Ashley Ward), Crow Lane (Henbury & Brentry) and Oatlands Avenue (Hengrove & Whitchurch Park); they have been selected considering factors such as being within areas of growth and regeneration with significant housing being developed or proposed; levels of deprivation in their respective vicinities and the need to focus on areas outside of the current

programme.

The purpose of the Scrutiny report is:

- To set out the background, progress and benefits of the City Centre and High Streets Recovery and Renewal programme. Councillors requested an update on Business Improvement Districts and transport projects, these are addressed in this paper.

1.2 Who will the proposal have the potential to affect?

<input type="checkbox"/> Bristol City Council workforce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Service users	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The wider community
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioned services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City partners / Stakeholder organisations	
Additional comments:		

1.3 Will the proposal have an equality impact?

Could the proposal affect access levels of representation or participation in a service, or does it have the potential to change e.g. quality of life: health, education, or standard of living etc.?

If 'No' explain why you are sure there will be no equality impact, then skip steps 2-4 and request review by Equality and Inclusion Team.

If 'Yes' complete the rest of this assessment, or if you plan to complete the assessment at a later stage please state this clearly here and request review by the Equality and Inclusion Team.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	[please select]
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Step 2: What information do we have?

2.1 What data or evidence is there which tells us who is, or could be affected?

Please use this section to demonstrate an understanding of who could be affected by the proposal. Include general population data where appropriate, and information about people who will be affected with particular reference to protected and other relevant characteristics: [How we measure equality and diversity \(bristol.gov.uk\)](https://www.bristol.gov.uk/equality-diversity)

Use one row for each evidence source and say which characteristic(s) it relates to. You can include a mix of qualitative and quantitative data e.g. from national or local research, available data or previous consultations and engagement activities.

Outline whether there is any over or under representation of equality groups within relevant services - don't forget to benchmark to the local population where appropriate. Links to available data and reports are here [Data, statistics and intelligence \(sharepoint.com\)](#). See also: [Bristol Open Data \(Quality of Life, Census etc.\)](#); [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment \(JSNA\)](#); [Ward Statistical Profiles](#).

For workforce / management of change proposals you will need to look at the diversity of the affected teams using available evidence such as [HR Analytics: Power BI Reports \(sharepoint.com\)](#) which shows the diversity profile of council teams and service areas. Identify any over or under-representation compared with Bristol economically active citizens for different characteristics. Additional sources of useful workforce evidence include the [Employee Staff Survey Report](#) and [Stress Risk Assessment](#)

Data / Evidence Source [Include a reference where known]	Summary of what this tells us
Population change: Census 2021	The population of Bristol at the 2021 census was 472,124, an increase of more than 44,000 since 2011

	(10.3% against an increase in England and Wales of 6.3%) Bristol was the fastest growing of all the Core Cities in England and Wales over the last decade.
<p>Ethnic Disparity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Census 2021 2. Bristol: a city divided? (Centre on the Dynamics of Ethnicity, 2017) 3. Impact of the Cost-of-Living Crisis on Black & Minoritised Communities in Bristol (Black South West Network, 2023) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bristol's population is increasingly diverse. In 1991 the Black, Asian & Minority ethnic population accounted for 5.1% of the total population; in 2001 this increased to 8.2%, in 2011 to 16% and in 2021 to 18.9%. The largest minority ethnic groups in 2021 were Somali (1.9%), Pakistani (1.9%) and Indian (1.8%) 2. Bristol ranked 7th out of the 348 districts of England & Wales (1=worst) on the Index of Multiple Inequality. 3. 75% of respondents to BSWN's survey believe they are struggling to afford basic items (defined as groceries, foodstuffs, cleaning supplies, and basic hygiene products); 79% of respondents stated they are currently struggling with paying their bills; 55% of respondents made explicit reference to the unaffordability of food and a further 43% of respondents struggling to pay for three or more of their utility bills.
<p>Ward Profile Data (wards listed are those in which the targeted high streets of Ashley Rd/Grosvenor Rd, Crow Lane & Oatlands Avenue are located. Data for Central ward is also listed, in relation to the city centre)</p>	<p>Ashley (Ashley Rd/Grosvenor Rd): 6th most diverse ward in Bristol by percentage of population classed as Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (30.2% against Bristol average of 18.9%); 7th ranked ward by percentage born outside UK (24.1% against Bristol average of 18.8%); 6th ranked ward by crime: burglary (6.3 per 1,000 against Bristol average of 5.3 per 1,000); Deprivation: 5 of the 10 areas making up Ashley Ward (LSOAs) rank among the most deprived in England with one (St Pauls Grosvenor Rd) ranking in England decile 1 (at least two neighbouring LSOAs are also ranked in England decile 1); 5th ranked by claimant count (53.4 per 1,000 against Bristol average of 33.5 per 1,000)</p> <p>Hengrove & Whitchurch Park (Oatlands Ave): 10th ranked ward by adult clients receiving community based services (8.4 per 1,000 against Bristol average of 6.6 per 1,000); 10th ranked ward by children known to social care (23.2 per 1,000 against Bristol average of 22.0 per 1,000); Deprivation: 2 of the 11 areas making up Hengrove & Whitchurch Park ward (LSOAs) rank among the most deprived in England, England decile 1, while 3 are in either England decile 2 or England decile 3 (at least 16 LSOAs in neighbouring wards are ranked among the most deprived); 9th ranked ward by pupil absence rate (12% against Bristol average of 11.8%); 3rd ranked ward by health/disability (10.1% of people providing unpaid care against Bristol average of 7.6%); 33rd ranked ward by education: people with a degree or higher (20.9% against Bristol average of 42.1%)</p> <p>Henbury & Brentry (Crow Lane): 8th ranked ward by adult clients receiving community based services (9.2 per 1,000 against Bristol average of 6.6 per 1,000); 10th ranked ward by child poverty (23.6% against Bristol average of 21.8%); 3rd ranked ward by children</p>

	<p>known to social care (36.8 per 1,000 against Bristol average of 22.0 per 1,000); Deprivation: 3 of the 7 areas making up Henbury & Brentry ward (LSOAs) rank among the most deprived in England, with 1 in the most deprived decile, England decile 1 (at least 5 LSOAs in neighbouring wards are ranked among the most deprived in England); 8th ranked ward by pupil absence rate (12.1% against Bristol average of 11.8%); 6th ranked ward by health/disability (9.3% of people providing unpaid care against Bristol average of 7.6%)</p> <p>Central (City Centre): 2nd ranked ward by child poverty (39.8% against Bristol average of 21.8%); 4th ranked by children known to social care (31.9 per 1,000 against Bristol average of 22.0 per 1,000); 2nd ranked by country of birth (37.6% against Bristol average of 18.8%); 1st ranked by crime: burglary (16 per 1,000 against Bristol average of 5.3 per 1,000); 2 of the 8 areas making up Henbury & Brentry ward (LSOAs) rank among the most deprived in England, decile 1 (at least 8 LSOAs in neighbouring wards are ranked among the most deprived in England); 3rd most diverse ward in Bristol by percentage of population classed as Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (34.3% against Bristol average of 18.9%); 2nd ranked by main language not being English (20.8% against Bristol average of 10.1%)</p>
<p>Quality of Life Indicators (wards listed are those in which the targeted high streets of Ashley Rd/Grosvenor Rd, Crow Lane & Oatlands Avenue are located. Data for Central ward is also listed, in relation to the city centre)</p>	<p>Ashley (Ashley Rd/Grosvenor Rd): 14 QoL indicators ranked significantly worse against the respective Bristol average, including in the Culture/Leisure, Community/Living, Crime/Safety, Sustainability/Environment & Transport categories.</p> <p>Hengrove & Whitchurch Park (Oatlands Ave): 33 QoL indicators ranked significantly worse against the respective Bristol average, including in the Community/Living, Crime/Safety, Culture/Leisure, Sustainability/Environment, Transport, Education/Skills, Economy, Health/Wellbeing and Housing categories.</p> <p>Henbury & Brentry (Crow Lane): 12 QoL indicators ranked significantly worse against the respective Bristol average, including in the Crime/Safety, Education/Skills, Culture/Leisure, Transport, Sustainability/Environment and Health/Wellbeing categories.</p> <p>Central: 25 QoL indicators ranked significantly worse against the respective Bristol average, including in the Community/Living, Crime/Safety, Culture/Leisure, Sustainability/Environment, Transport, Health/Wellbeing and Housing categories.</p>
<p>Bristol Key Facts (2022)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the year April 2021 to March 2022 there were 7.6 small business start-ups per 10,000 working age population in Bristol. 183 small businesses started in March 2022, 22.1% lower than the pre-pandemic level of 235 in March 2020 - The population of Bristol has become increasingly diverse and some local communities have changed

	<p>significantly. There are at least 45 religions, 187 countries of birth and 91 main languages spoken.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In Bristol 15% of residents live in the 10% most deprived areas in England, including 19,000 children and 7,800 older people. - Life expectancy for women is 82.7 years and for men 78.5 years (2018-2020) both are lower than the national average. The inequalities gap in life expectancy between the most and least deprived areas in Bristol is 9.9 years for men and 6.9 years for women. Bristol's healthy life expectancy (years living in good health) is 61.5 years for women and 59.8 years for men (2018-20; significantly lower than the national average of 63.9 and 63.1 years respectively). - In March 22 4% of the city's working age population were claiming out of work benefits; 15% of these were young people aged 16-24 years, while 19% were aged 50 years and over. - The number of overseas students has trebled over the last 20 years and now make up 27% of all students at the University of Bristol and 17% of all students at UWE. - Significantly fewer young people in Bristol go on to Higher Education⁵² (31.6% compared to 42.2% in England). In South Bristol participation is only 22.3%, including 3 of the 5 lowest performing neighbourhoods⁵³ in England. - Homelessness in the city continues to disproportionately affect certain communities, particularly single households, young people and people of colour (especially those who identify as Black). - Only 52% of residents are satisfied with the range and quality of outdoor events in the city (from 74% pre-pandemic).
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Additional comments:
The programme is specifically aimed at businesses across the city and with targeted intervention for Street Scene and Greenery Enhancements within the City Centre and across three further high streets (following on from interventions in the nine high streets originally selected for the existing phase of the programme). The programme focuses on the following groups:-

- Businesses in the City Centre and high streets
- Users (consumers, visitors, employees) of the City Centre and high streets
- Black, Asian and minority ethnic background communities and businesses
- Communities and businesses located in three selected high streets (with areas or serving catchments with high levels of deprivation)

2.2 Do you currently monitor relevant activity by the following protected characteristics?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender Reassignment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marriage and Civil Partnership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy/Maternity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Race
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion or Belief	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sex	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sexual Orientation

2.3 Are there any gaps in the evidence base?

Where there are gaps in the evidence, or you don't have enough information about some equality groups, include an equality action to find out in section 4.2 below. This doesn't mean that you can't complete the assessment without the information, but you need to follow up the action and if necessary, review the assessment later. If you are unable to fill in the gaps, then state this clearly with a justification.

For workforce related proposals all relevant characteristics may not be included in HR diversity reporting (e.g. pregnancy/maternity). For smaller teams diversity data may be redacted. A high proportion of not known/not disclosed may require an action to address under-reporting.

We know there are gaps in our diversity data for some protected characteristics citywide, especially where this has not historically been included in census and statutory reporting e.g. for sexual orientation.

We have identified the following gaps in data:

- No number of Black, Asian and minority led businesses in our City Centre and 46 high streets.
- Demographic profile and equalities information on businesses in our City Centre and 46 high streets.
- Limited information on demographic profile and equalities information on users of the City Centre and high streets.

These gaps will be addressed as much as possible through:

- Undertaking business and stakeholder surveys in targeted areas at the start of this phase of the programme, and subsequent monitoring and evaluation throughout.
- A detailed survey will also be undertaken with businesses and users of the City Centre and across the high streets selected for intervention.
- Capturing information on grant applications and business support documentation (via businesses that receive support).
- Through data collected from sign up/application forms that creative practitioners/organisations wishing to host events funded by the programme are required to complete.
- Robust monitoring and evaluation via onsite surveys, feedback and sign up forms for participants in/visitors to engagement and cultural events.
- By utilising as appropriate other sources of data available to the Economic Development service area (e.g. via universal business support provision)
- All data will be handled under the terms of the relevant data protection legislation and will be anonymised when required.

2.4 How have you involved communities and groups that could be affected?

You will nearly always need to involve and consult with internal and external stakeholders during your assessment. The extent of the engagement will depend on the nature of the proposal or change. This should usually include individuals and groups representing different relevant protected characteristics. Please include details of any completed engagement and consultation and how representative this had been of Bristol's diverse communities.

Include the main findings of any engagement and consultation in Section 2.1 above.

If you are managing a workforce change process or restructure please refer to [Managing a change process or restructure \(sharepoint.com\)](#) for advice on consulting with employees etc. Relevant stakeholders for engagement about workforce changes may include e.g. staff-led groups and trades unions as well as affected staff.

The programme is delivering on a number of findings in the One City Economic Recovery Strategy 2020, One City Climate Emergency Strategy 2020 and One City Ecological Emergency Strategy 2020, all of which were developed in collaboration with a huge range of partners through the One City approach.

More than 300 city partners have been engaged to contribute to the One City Economic Recovery Strategy 2020 that is built around three pillars: people and labour markets; business and investment; and Bristol's places. Each pillar identifies priorities for response and recovery, with inclusion and sustainability at the heart of all three.

We have engaged with a diverse range of businesses, citizens, community organisations and stakeholder groups, examples include the city's business improvement districts (Bedminster, Bristol City Centre, Broadmead, Clifton

Village and Redcliffe and Temple), Bristol Food Network, Bristol Association of Restaurants, Bars and Independent Establishments (BARBIE), Federation of Small Business (FSB), Business West, ACH, Babassa Youth Empowerment Projects, the Black South West Network (BSWN).

2.5 How will engagement with stakeholders continue?

Explain how you will continue to engage with stakeholders throughout the course of planning and delivery. Please describe where more engagement and consultation is required and set out how you intend to undertake it. Include any targeted work to seek the views of under-represented groups. If you do not intend to undertake it, please set out your justification. You can ask the Equality and Inclusion Team for help in targeting particular groups.

- We will build on already established processes to seek advice from local equality groups and stakeholders championing the needs of people from different protected groups.
- This programme recognises that support is needed to fully reflect the diverse range of Bristol's high streets while particularly focusing on areas of deprivation and inequality. For example, having carried out significant activity in the likes of Stapleton Rd and Church Rd that have high proportions of Black, Asian and minority ethnic business and communities, this latest phase will cover the following areas and their catchments: Ashley Road/Grosvenor Road in St Paul's, Crow Lane in Henbury and Oatlands Avenue in Whitchurch.
- We have committed to a range of steps and measures to ensure that interventions that promote and consider accessibility and are inclusive to all.

Step 3: Who might the proposal impact?

Analysis of impacts must be rigorous. Please demonstrate your analysis of any impacts of the proposal in this section, referring to evidence you have gathered above and the characteristics protected by the Equality Act 2010. Also include details of existing issues for particular groups that you are aware of and are seeking to address or mitigate through this proposal. See detailed guidance documents for advice on identifying potential impacts etc. [Equality Impact Assessments \(EqIA\) \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

3.1 Does the proposal have any potentially adverse impacts on people based on their protected or other relevant characteristics?

Consider sub-categories and how people with combined characteristics (e.g. young women) might have particular needs or experience particular kinds of disadvantage.

Where mitigations indicate a follow-on action, include this in the 'Action Plan' Section 4.2 below.

GENERAL COMMENTS (highlight any potential issues that might impact all or many groups)

Bristol's One City Approach brings together a wide range of public, private, voluntary and third sector partners within Bristol. They share an aim to make Bristol a fair, healthy and sustainable city. A city of hope and aspiration, where everyone can share in its success.

In collaboration with our five other thematic multi-agency boards made up of experts from across the public, private and voluntary sectors, the One City Economy Board is forming an economic recovery taskforce. This will work collaboratively to develop a framework and prospectus for Bristol's requirements for economic recovery, best practice, and an action plan for advancing our aims under the One City Approach. It will do so in an inclusive manner with a continued awareness of regional, sub-national and national guidance and activity. The City Centre and High Streets Recovery Programme reports into the One City Economy Board

Access to business and employment opportunities, for young people, carers, Black, Asian and minority ethnic people, women, and LGBTQ+ people

- Our programme will help create additional businesses and employment opportunities. We will work with the Councils Employment, Skills and Learning Team, and other equality representative organisations to promote business and employment opportunities to these groups.

Support for businesses that have been negatively impacted by Covid-19

- Through our programme we have targeted support to those businesses that have been most impacted by the

pandemic (retail, hospitality and culture). A high proportion of young people and women are employed by these sectors. By providing additional support and advice we help these businesses to survive, which will safeguard jobs. Support will also be targeted at areas that have a high proportion of Black, Asian and minority ethnic led small businesses (e.g. Ashley Rd/Grosvenor Rd), helping to safeguard these businesses and jobs.

- address this issue by improving access to cultural and social activities, including for young people.

Programme communications and documentation

- We will ensure key messages for older people are being delivered via printed materials.
- All programme communications will be in plain English and we will make Easy Read versions available on request and it will be communicated that these alternative formats are available.
- We will make alternative arrangement for people with sight loss to provide signatures and documents as evidence for applications.
- Local updates and information in plain English, and alternative languages/formats made available.
- We will work with relevant equality representative organisations to develop information that can be provided to businesses through our Business Support Programme on how to make their business more accessible.

Access to social, culture and event activities

- We will use the Culture and Events programme to deliver inclusive events which are aimed at celebrating equality and diversity. There will also be several family focussed events.
- All event organisers will be provided with the Councils briefing paper on Disability and reopening spaces for events.

PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS

Age: Young People	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disadvantaged young people may not have access to appropriate technology for learning, social connection and entertainment. - Young people are most likely to have lost work or seen their income drop because of the pandemic and other recent shocks to the economy
Mitigations:	See general comments above
Age: Older People	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	Older people in Bristol are less likely to be comfortable using digital services; more likely to be reliant on motor vehicles, public and community transport; more likely to feel excluded from high streets if appropriate infrastructure (e.g. seating) is lacking; and may experience additional barriers in accessing local businesses due to reduced mobility.
Mitigations:	See general comments above
Disability	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - People with visual impairments may find it difficult to negotiate our high streets due to the volume and inappropriate placing of street furniture (many cannot judge distances, or need to physically touch objects to be aware of their presence). - Similarly people with impaired mobility are likely to have heightened difficulties when negotiating high streets. - An increased awareness of social distancing in the wake of the pandemic may also case anxiety.
Mitigations:	See general comments above
Sex	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	More women than men work in the retail and hospitality sectors and so are more likely to experience unwanted attention and aggressive behaviour.
Mitigations:	We will continue to work with closely related projects such as Bristol Nights, whose high profile campaigns to minimise violence against women and employees in the hospitality sector have won national and international recognition.
Sexual orientation	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	
Mitigations:	
Pregnancy / Maternity	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	Pregnant women and mothers of young children may experience additional physical barriers in accessing public spaces (e.g. places to rest; narrow thoroughfares precluding the use of prams/buggies)
Mitigations:	See general comments above

Gender reassignment	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	
Mitigations:	
Race	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minority ethnic groups are more likely to live in deprived neighbourhoods, and are about twice as likely to live on a low income and experience child poverty. - People who do not speak English as a main language will find engagement with the programme challenging. - Pre-pandemic, young people from ethnic minority backgrounds were known to be 47% more likely to be on zero-hour contracts. Local research since suggests a significant proportion lost their jobs and over 74% of those enrolled with local youth projects experienced high levels of stress, anxiety and loss of purpose. - Black, Asian and minority ethnic led small businesses may lack information about the support available to them from the government (sectors particularly affected include taxi drivers, restaurants, cafes and hotels).
Mitigations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We have a statutory duty to foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. This means we should be providing 'myth-busting' information and challenging misunderstanding wherever possible through the communications channels that we use. - Local updates and information in plain English, and alternative languages/formats made available.
Religion or Belief	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Challenge for faith groups in adapting religious festivals and celebrations in areas not designed for them. - Heightened risk of hate speech in the form of misinformation about faith groups
Mitigations:	Continue to build on existing good practice and community engagement – e.g. work in partnership to raise awareness of Grand Iftar celebrations on College Green
Marriage & civil partnership	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	
Mitigations:	
OTHER RELEVANT CHARACTERISTICS	
Socio-Economic (deprivation)	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	
Mitigations:	See general comments above
Carers	Does your analysis indicate a disproportionate impact? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Potential impacts:	Carers tend to have less access to training and employment opportunities.
Mitigations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See 'General Comments' above. - Our programme will work with businesses to encourage them to create more flexible forms of employment.
Other groups [Please add additional rows below to detail the impact for any other relevant groups as appropriate e.g. asylum seekers and refugees; care experienced; homelessness; armed forces personnel and veterans]	
Potential impacts:	
Mitigations:	

3.2 Does the proposal create any benefits for people based on their protected or other relevant characteristics?

Outline any potential benefits of the proposal and how they can be maximised. Identify how the proposal will support our [Public Sector Equality Duty](#) to:

- ✓ Eliminate unlawful discrimination for a protected group
- ✓ Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't

- ✓ Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't

Through close monitoring, given the nature of the programme with elements of it specifically targeting under-represented groups, Equal Opportunities will be, as a matter of course, regularly discussed at project management meetings.

Procurement processes will require successful applicants, contractors and delivery partners to demonstrate their commitment and capacity to provide an effective and appropriate service to people from groups with protected characteristics.

Working closely with equality groups to connect to people with protected characteristics, to ensure they are part of the conversation when: co-designing interventions; designing and delivering events; targeting and promoting grants; focusing business support programmes; and seeking delivery partners.

Programme principles demonstrate our commitment to supporting equality and diversity and people with protected characteristics:

- Engaging, collaborating and co-designing with communities, businesses and stakeholders to re-connect places to people.
- Supporting the creative and cultural sector, to create locally distinctive places and experiences.
- Skills development and employability, supporting local, regional and national priorities for economic inclusion and improving access to jobs.
- Environmental sustainability and climate and ecological emergency priorities, considering, raising awareness and addressing priorities, through proposed interventions.
- Supporting equality and diversity celebrating, integrating and delivering inclusive, diverse and open interventions, to meet the needs of diverse local communities.

The programme is committed to collaborating with diverse range of citizens, businesses and stakeholders to ensure we co-design and deliver proposals that are inclusive to all and meet a wide range of needs.

The One City Ecological Emergency Strategy 2020 reveals cultural barriers and economic factors preventing equal access to green spaces. For example, some people from visible ethnic minority backgrounds feel uncomfortable spending time in nature as they are underrepresented there.

Step 4: Impact

4.1 How has the equality impact assessment informed or changed the proposal?

What are the main conclusions of this assessment? Use this section to provide an overview of your findings. This summary can be included in decision pathway reports etc.

If you have identified any significant negative impacts which cannot be mitigated, provide a justification showing how the proposal is proportionate, necessary, and appropriate despite this.

Summary of significant negative impacts and how they can be mitigated or justified:
Although we haven't identified significant negative impacts from the proposal we're aware of a wide range of disparities for people in Bristol based on their characteristics and Their circumstances which we will seek to mitigate through the programme activities.
Summary of positive impacts / opportunities to promote the Public Sector Equality Duty:
The City Centre and High Streets Programme has provided a significant opportunity to 'build back better' and promote equality of opportunity for communities hardest hit by the pandemic and subsequent economic shocks. The experience gained will be built upon and, where appropriate, adapted in this latest phase.

4.2 Action Plan

Use this section to set out any actions you have identified to improve data, mitigate issues, or maximise opportunities etc. If an action is to meet the needs of a particular protected group please specify this.

Improvement / action required	Responsible Officer	Timescale
Work with BCC's Employment, Skills and Learning Team, and other equality representative organisations to improve the promotion of business and employment opportunities for young people, carers, Black, Asian and minority ethnic people, women, and LGBTQ+ people	Jason Thorne	ongoing throughout the programme
Better communicate to programme participants that all programme messaging will be in plain English with Easy Read versions available on request.	Jason Thorne	ongoing throughout the programme
Using analysis of the intelligence gathered during the existing phase of the City Centre and High Streets Recovery programme to improve our data collection methodology so as to gain a better insight into the gaps in the evidence base highlighted at section 2.3	Jason Thorne	ongoing throughout the programme
Using analysis of the intelligence gathered during the existing phase of the City Centre and High Streets Recovery programme to deliver a series of appropriately targeted, fully inclusive cultural events aimed at celebrating equality and diversity.	Jason Thorne	ongoing throughout the programme

4.3 How will the impact of your proposal and actions be measured?

How will you know if you have been successful? Once the activity has been implemented this equality impact assessment should be periodically reviewed to make sure your changes have been effective your approach is still appropriate.

As well as contributing to measures identified by the One City Economy Board we will monitor progress against relevant Quality of Life indicators (there are two questions in the survey specifically related to high streets) [Quality of Life 2020-21 — Open Data Bristol](#) and reduction in disparities by Ward [New wards: data profiles - bristol.gov.uk](#)

Step 5: Review

The Equality and Inclusion Team need at least five working days to comment and feedback on your EqIA. EqIAs should only be marked as reviewed when they provide sufficient information for decision-makers on the equalities impact of the proposal. Please seek feedback and review from the [Equality and Inclusion Team](#) before requesting sign off from your Director¹.

Equality and Inclusion Team Review: <i>Reviewed by Equality and Inclusion Team</i>	Director Sign-Off: Alex Hearn, Director: Economy of Place
Date: 12/9/2023	Date: 11 September 2023

¹ Review by the Equality and Inclusion Team confirms there is sufficient analysis for decision makers to consider the likely equality impacts at this stage. This is not an endorsement or approval of the proposal.

Growth and Regeneration
Scrutiny Commission
27th November 2023



Report of: Simone Wilding Chief Planner and Head of Planning

Title: Planning Service Update

Ward: All

Recommendation:

For the Commission Members to consider the contents of the Planning Service Update paper.



Background

- A significant backlog in Development management (DM) service in Bristol developed over the last 18 months.
- All LPAs are struggling due to impact of austerity and increasing complexity. BCC backlog is probably greater than average
- At peak in summer '23 this meant 24 weeks' wait times to planning officer allocation for non-major applications.
- The damaging impact of the delays and stress caused by the hold ups have been recognised. A chief planner was brought in late May '23 with a mandate to recover the service.



Key Causes: Resourcing & Productivity

- Loss of staff during recruitment freeze: reduction of ca. 36% to March '23 ; and substantial further losses since then.
- Recruitment challenges:
Were only able to recruit graduates and agency staff from external
- Heavy reliance on agency and consultant resource:
Immediate capacity but not good VFM & not sustainable medium/long-term
- Resource pressures among consultees also add to/cause delays
- Productivity has been at 0.3 decisions per week/officer: low
- Stems from protracted negotiations & insufficient front-loading

Actions since May '23 to increase decisions

Focused primarily on recruitment to rebuild capacity and stem loss of staff.
Gradually increased emphasis on shortening time taken per decision:

- Training & good practice standardisation
- Started to develop expectations for 'turnaround guides' and agreed focusing on number of decisions taken including data monitoring.
- Agreed strict 'one-chance for amendments only' (and started gradual implementation)
- Increased number of regular backlog days
- Prioritisation of 'high-impact/risk cases' to stem 'failure demand'
- Streamlining/block-allocation by types of application
- Procured 'planning performance improvement specialists' (Mondrem).
Started 13/11: modelling, support action plan optimisation etc

Starting to see real improvements

- Unallocated cases peaked in August
- Number of cases in hand peaked in October
- Rate of decrease is accelerating
- Too early to judge how far can push this acceleration

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BUT – Some big risks also remain:

- Generally LPAs with backlogs or other service pressures and no plan for improvement will run the risk of government Special Measures which can remove local decision making powers



The backlog numbers this financial year

The backlog continued to increase until August, when additional capacity was deployed. From August to October the backlog has reduced by ca 15%. Previously defined backlog as ‘unallocated cases’:

	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Unallocated applications	1250	1443	1608	1689	1705	1633	1466
Decs made (excl trees/preapp)	127	145	150	137	151	147	196
Applications 26+ wks old	500	539	624	772	807	876	933
FTE in DM (excl temp resource)	25.2	23.2	22.2	22.7	23.7	26.8	26.9
FTE in DM (incl temp resource)	26.2	24.2	23.2	24.9	26.3	32	34.2

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Note: We will publish an update to this table on 24/11

Growth & Regeneration



Overview – As is baseline

Actual all Cases in Hand Jan 2022 to 10/11/23

Then forecast to Nov '25 at 'baseline productivity' of 0.3 cases (wk/officer)

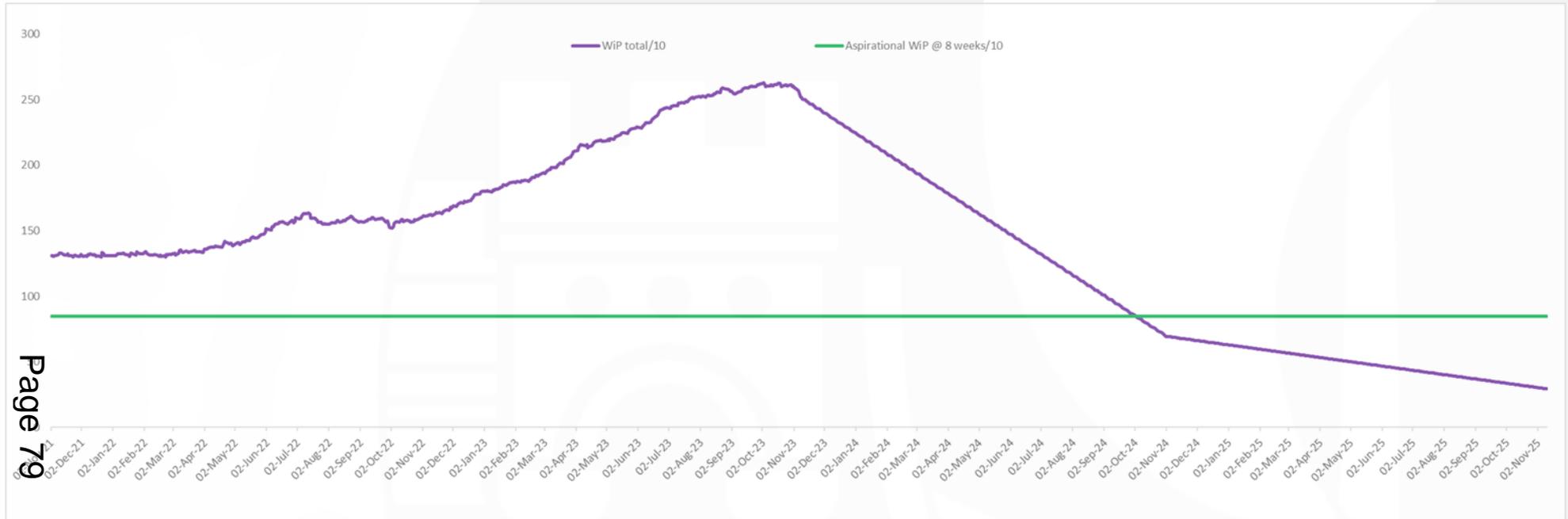


If continue at current capacity & productivity it would take to October '25 to reach sustainable productivity

Growth & Regeneration



Modelling of route to sustainable productivity by 10/24

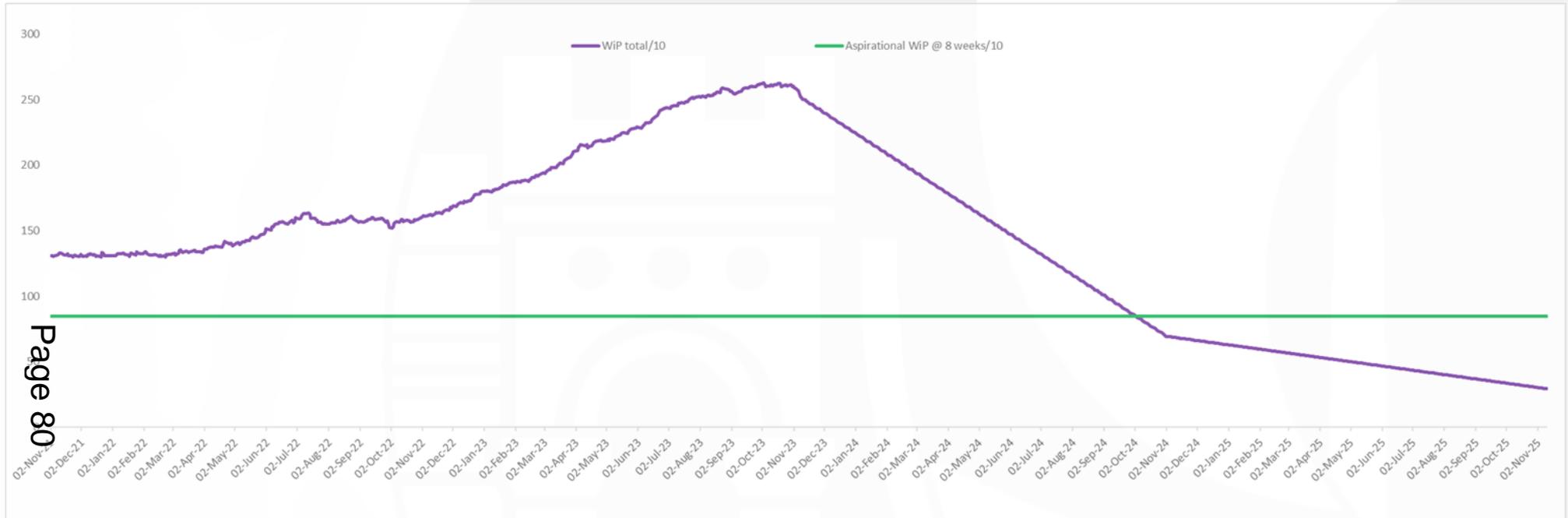


This would require maintaining capacity and increasing productivity by one third (to 0.4, or further increasing capacity with proportionately reduced increase in productivity)

Growth & Regeneration



Modelling of route to sustainable productivity by 06/24



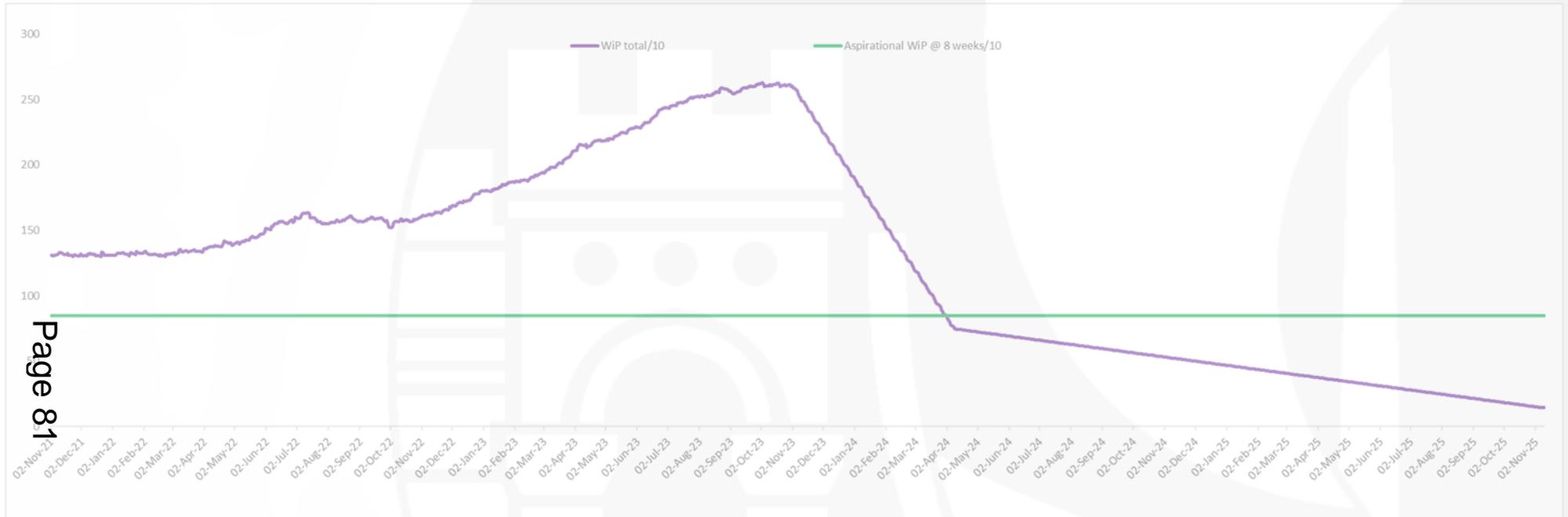
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This would require maintaining capacity and increasing productivity by two thirds (to 0.49, or further increasing capacity with proportionately reduced increase in productivity)

Growth & Regeneration



Modelling of route to sustainable productivity by 03/24



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This would require maintaining current capacity and doubling productivity (to 0.62, or further increasing capacity with proportionately reduced increase in productivity)

Growth & Regeneration



What we are doing by December '23

Capacity:

- Additional consultancy support starting 27/11
- Redesign team structure for consultation to improve morale/retention
- Re-run senior DM recruitment with improved campaign material
- Start working with Public Practice on filling hard to fill posts (30/11 deadline)
- Bring in student resource & start over-time scheme
- Freeing up officers via better external comms & enabling customer self-serve

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Increasing productivity by building on activity to date plus:

- Identify 'clean service' start date per application types & implement some
- Expand utilisation of templates, shorter reports & 'block allocation approach'
- Enable speedier consultee responses & enact case officer is 'king/queen'
- Clarify & tighten 'one improvement chance only' approach
- Apply to DLUHC digital planning programme (closing 05/12)
- Start case officer sign off for low-risk types & 'graduated' officers

What we are planning to do by March '24

Ensure sustainability of resource:

- Progress restructure & implement defined role expectations
- Recruit permanent staff via improved campaigns
- Recruit sandwich year students and apprentices to start ca July '24
- Onboard graduates from national graduate pilot scheme (expect 2)
- (Implement central government 'super squad' support - awaiting details)

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Maintain speedy, pragmatic decision making, building on earlier activity plus:

- Implement 'clean service' start date for remaining application types
- Allocate & start technical consult. on all new cases 2 weeks from validation
- In new services operate 'no time extension' unless justified by pre-app/PPA
- Revise committee reporting to make committee cases less onerous
- Continuously monitor & improve performance via good practice sharing (including from other authorities)

What we are planning to do from April '24

Maintain required capacity:

- Public Practice recruits (01/04) and apprentices & students (summer) start
- Focus on continuous improvement, training and nurturing talent
- Put resilient succession plans in place

Maintain speedy, pragmatic decision making, building on earlier activity plus

- Optimise working with new members and revisit committee format/set up
- Continuously review options for bringing forward 'backlog end date'
- Explore further digital innovations to improve efficiencies



Growth and Regeneration
Scrutiny Commission
27th November 2023



Report of: John Smith, Interim Executive Director, Growth and Regeneration

Title: Bristol Avon Flood Risk Strategy

Ward: All

Presented by: Shaun Hartley, Project Director, Bristol Avon Flood Strategy

Recommendation:

For the Commission to consider the contents of the report.



Shaun Hartley
Project Director for Bristol City Council



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Bristol Avon Flood Strategy

G&R Scrutiny Commission – 27 November 2023

Better protecting people and property from flooding

Future-proofing Bristol and neighbouring communities; enabling a greener, more active city; and unlocking our city's potential.



www.bristol.gov.uk/bristolavonflood



Why is the flood resilience strategy important?

Currently c.1,300 *existing* properties near the city centre at risk of a severe river or tidal flood.
Becomes c.4,500 by end of century if not protected

Flood risk is constraining development
Enabling defence infrastructure is a pre-requisite
Safeguarding long-term resilience of city region

Page 87

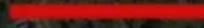
Temple Quarter
Regeneration Zone

Temple Quarter
Regeneration Zone



Flood event with a 1 in 200 chance in any year, with predicted sea level rise by 2110

The same flood event with proposed flood defences

Flood defences
phase 1 
phase 2 

A Strategic Approach

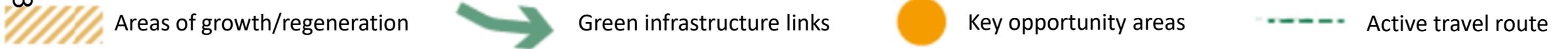
Wider ambition, responding to numerous city challenges



Placemaking-led scheme
Riverside active travel corridor
Green/blue infrastructure response
Biodiversity net gain

Enablement of ~13,000 new homes
Connecting communities
Supporting a 'just transition'
Preserving heritage

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Indicative timeline



Outline Business Case and EA approval —————→
Early 2024 (**Cabinet Jan 24**)

Key delivery issues

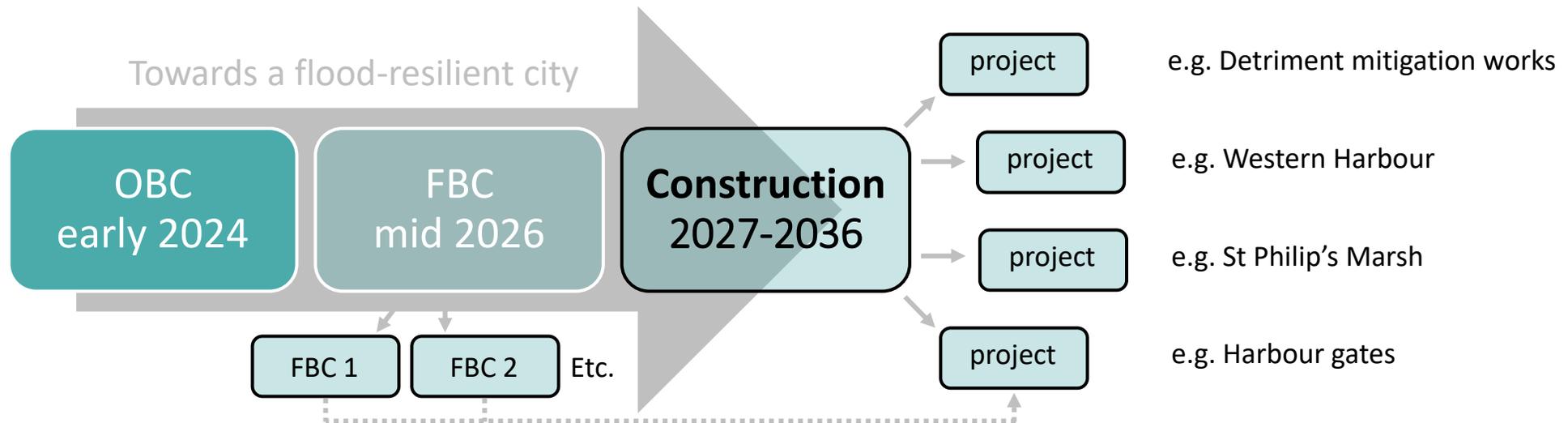
Credible funding sources to be identified
Planning policy updates emerging

Full Business Case, plus consenting —————→
Mid-2026

Planning/consenting route to be determined
Interfaces with other masterplans

Construction, phased across city —————→
2027-2036

Phasing plan will be developed through OBC and FBC
Significantly influenced by regeneration projects



Key Issues



Planning

Piecemeal development leading to missed opportunity at city level

BCC+EA working together to try to influence development (pre-app engagement) ahead of policy

BAFS delivery underpins the growth strategy in the Local Plan. Local Plan includes BAFS policy.

Funding

Significant capital gap remains – upward pressure on costs since SOC figures in 2020

Exploring role of DEFRA, DLUHC and West of England Combined Authority to influence/enable

Council also studying options to contribute to capital cost

Timing

Alignment with regen masterplans essential – must avoid ambiguity and understand delivery phasing

FBC likely to be split to address phasing, but need to maintain momentum overall

Consultation

Next public consultation during FBC stage, as detailed designs are developed

OBC work

Developing preferred approach of adaptive, raised defences as identified in the SOC

Increasing confidence in technical solution by:

- refining flood model with more accurate data
- acquiring site information to better understand constraints
- embedding constructability advice to inform costing

Providing a reference case for costing purposes

Exploring opportunities to close funding gap

Does not:

- define detail of final solution (incl. appearance and exact location)
- predetermine masterplanning work at strategic regeneration sites



Funding Position



Emerging OBC work reflects upward pressure on construction costs since 2020

Also suggests enhancement of grant funding likely

Approximately half of the capital cost has been identified as met in principle

Work continues to identify remainder, from public and private sources

Demonstrating viability of funding is essential to build confidence and enable development

Notwithstanding the significant investment needed to deliver, the benefits far outweigh the cost

Estimated £7.7bn GVA to local economy, including from regeneration, damage/disruption avoided, job creation and enabling sustainable transport infrastructure

Growth and Regeneration
Scrutiny Commission
27th November 2023



Report of: John Smith, Interim Executive Director, Growth and Regeneration

Title: Bristol Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

Ward: All

Presented by: Matthew Sugden —Principal Flood Risk Officer

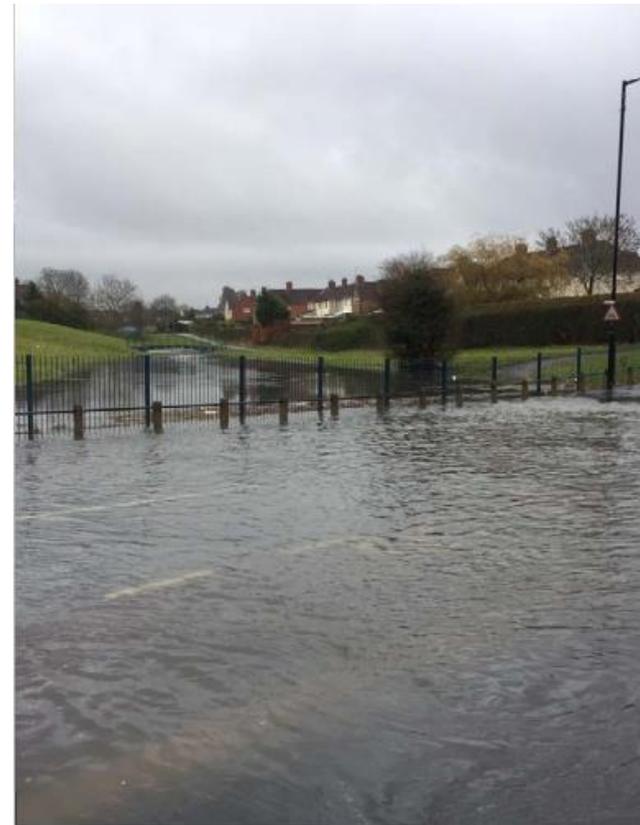
Recommendation:

For the Commission to consider the contents of the report.



Bristol Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS)

Matthew Sugden – Principal Flood Risk Officer



Growth and Regeneration

Flood Risk and Data Management

Slide 1



Updated Citywide Flood Strategy

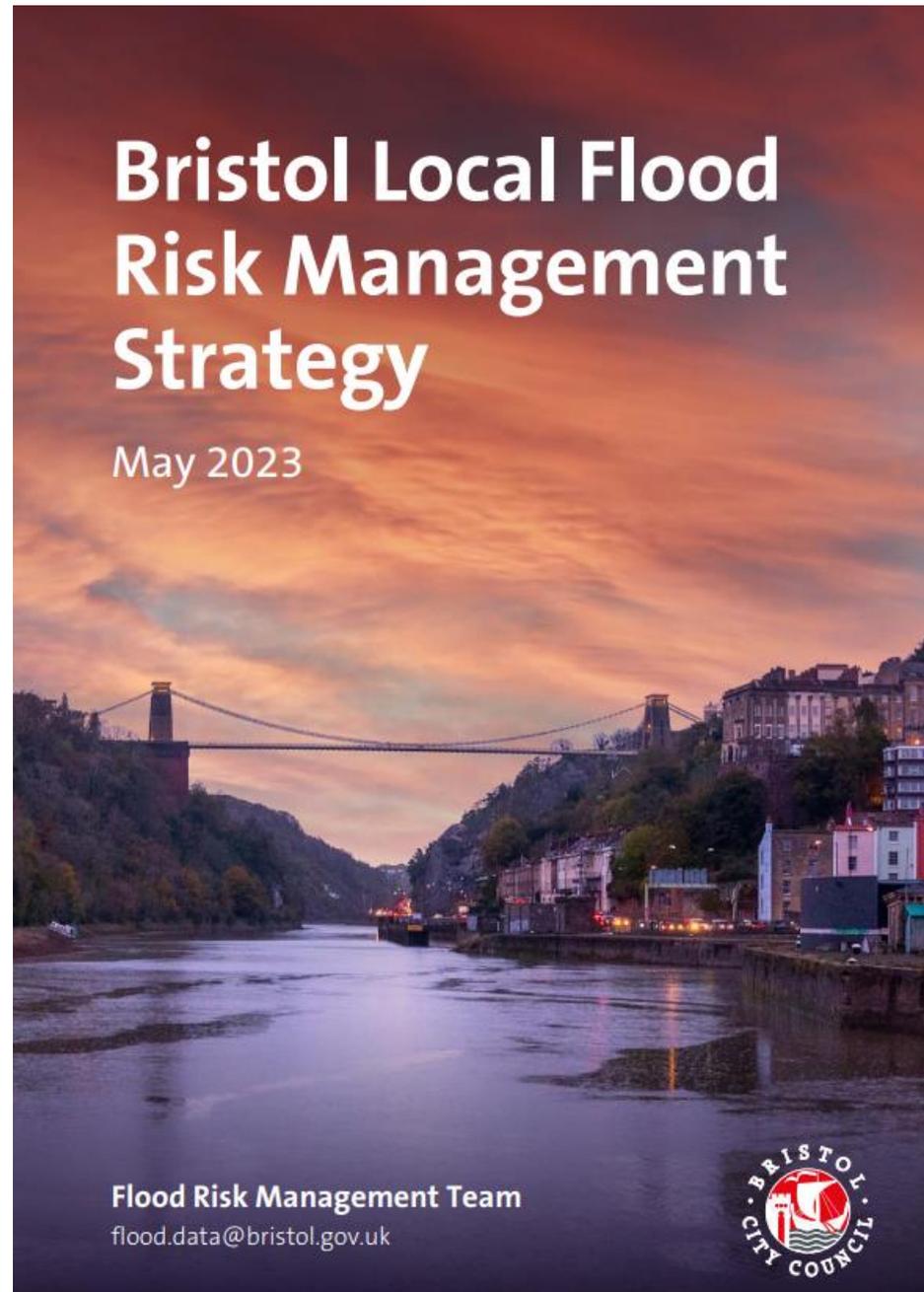
Statutory duty for BCC, as Lead Local Flood Authority for the city, to produce and maintain a LFRMS under the Flood and Water Management Act (2010)

Original version produced in 2014 with formal updates in 2018 and 2023

Provides an overview of all the flood risk management work undertaken between key partners in the city

Focuses on sources of Local Flood Risk including rainfall, groundwater and ordinary watercourses for which BCC has duties and powers

Presented to Scrutiny in March '23 and published in May



National Flood Strategy for England reflected in Bristol

National Strategy Ambitions

1. Climate resilient places

2. Today's growth and infrastructure – resilient in tomorrow's climate

3. A nation ready to respond and adapt to flooding and coastal change

Agreed Local Objectives

- Gain a greater understanding of the flood risks posed to Bristol and its people and places
- Promote sustainable development that seeks to reduce flood risk and includes consideration of climate change
- Actively manage flood risk infrastructure to reduce the likelihood of flooding causing harm to people and damage to society, the economy and the environment
- Increase public awareness and encourage communities to take action to manage the risks that they face
- Understand communities flooding concerns and priorities, and gather knowledge based on their perception of flooding
- Improve preparedness for flood events and post flood recovery

Interim update today on our progress against national strategy ambitions and local objectives

Climate Resilient Places

Promoting sustainable development that seeks to reduce flood risk

Since April 2023 to date we have:

- Provided advice to the planning authority regarding flood risk and surface water drainage on 127 planning applications
- Secured a betterment on existing surface water management (rate and / or volume) on 82% of applicable applications
- Achieved water quality improvements or mitigation on 78% of applications

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Partnership working is key to our success, and we continue to work with our neighbouring authorities, Environment Agency, sewerage undertaker and other risk management authorities to achieve shared outcomes.

Climate Resilient Places

Case study: Land South Of Freestone Road

Existing runoff rates:

Return Period	Rainfall Intensity (mm/hr)	Existing Runoff Rate (l/s)
1 year	52	60.94
30 year	123	143.51
100 year	151	175.95

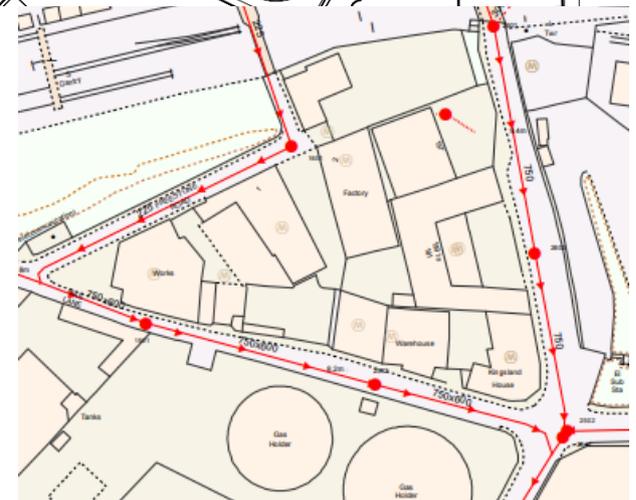
Developer proposed runoff rates: 30l/s

Secured runoff rate following objection: **6l/s**

Equates to a reduction of 97 pints of water every second

50,000 litres of water stored in a typical summer storm

Achieved through blue / green roofs and permeable paving to complement underground storage



Today's growth and infrastructure – resilient in tomorrow's climate

Local plan review

Publication stage

The publication version of the new plan was agreed by Full Council on 31 October 2023.

BAFS Outline Business Cases nearing completion

New Local Plan policy FR2 – “Development in an area that benefits from a reduction in flood risk by the future delivery of the Bristol Avon Flood Strategy will be expected to:

- Facilitate the delivery of future flood defences and an enhanced multi-purpose greenway along the river Avon frontage including through financial contributions where appropriate”

Avonmouth Severnside Ecology Mitigation and Flood Defence project: construction of new wetland habitats and flood defences that better protects existing properties and supports sustainable development in the area



Growth and Regeneration

Flood Risk and Data Management

Slide 6



A nation ready to respond and adapt to flooding and coastal change

Bristol City Council

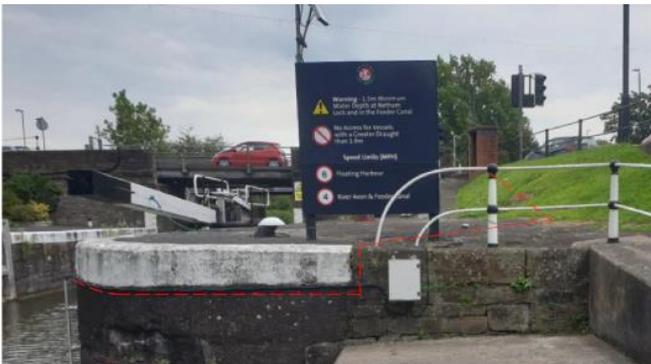
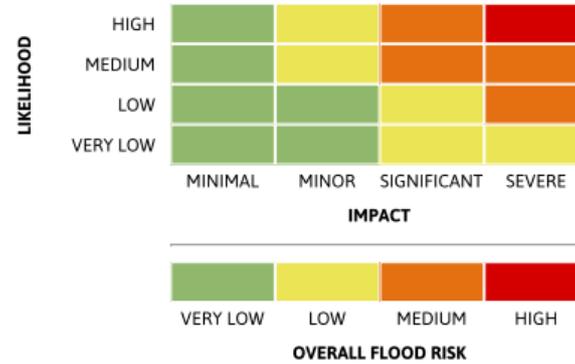
Flood Plan

July 2022

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Flood risk matrix

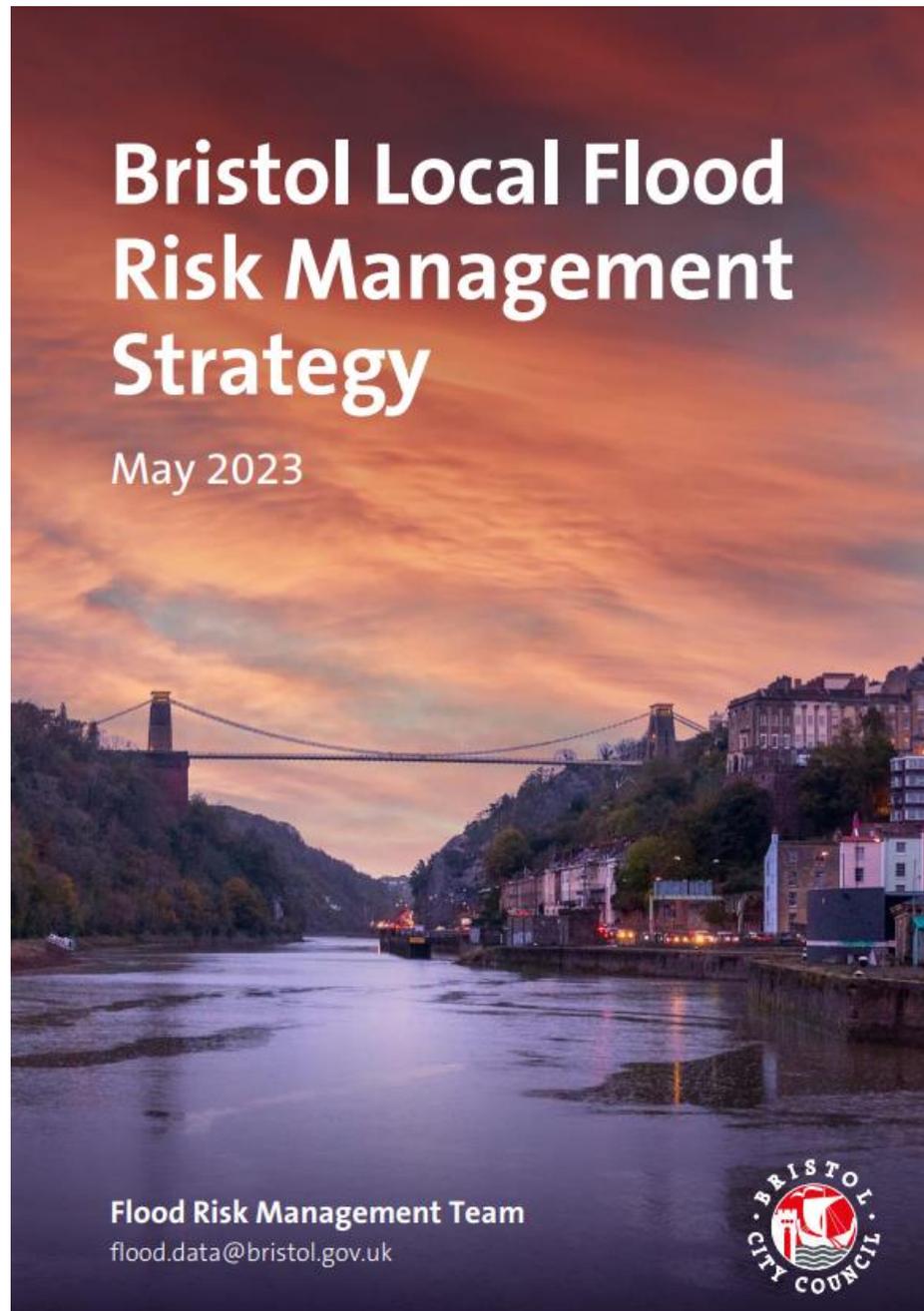


Growth and Regeneration

Flood Risk and Data Management

Slide 7





Thank you



Bristol City Council - Scrutiny Work Programme 2023 / 2024 (Formal Public Meetings)

People Scrutiny Commission (PSC) Chair: Cllr Christine Townsend Scrutiny Support: Bronwen Falconer	Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) (Sub-Committee of PSC) Chair: Cllr Steve Smith Scrutiny Support: Johanna Holmes	Communities Scrutiny Commission (CSC) Chair: Cllr Martin Fodor Scrutiny Support: Ian Hird	Growth & Regeneration Scrutiny Commission (G&RSC) Chair: Cllr David Wilcox Scrutiny Support: Johanna Holmes	Resources Scrutiny Commission (RSC) Chair: Cllr Geoff Gollop Scrutiny Support: Ian Hird	Overview & Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) Chair: Cllr Tony Dyer Scrutiny Support: Lucy Fleming
July 23					
August 23					
September 23					
27.9.23, 6pm		14.9.23 5.00 pm	28.9.23 5.30pm		4.9.23, 3pm
Annual Business Report		Annual Business report	Annual Business Report		Annual Business report
CQC Update		Parks funding	WECA / BCC Infrastructure Update (Transport)		Report from Climate Change Working Group
SEND Update: Standing Item		Parks and Green Spaces Strategy pre-consultation update (including Allotments and Food Growing Strategy)	Strategic CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy)		Quarter 4 Corporate Performance Report
Adult Social Care Transformation Programme Update: Standing Item		Update on Tree and Woodland Strategy	Temple Quarter Update		Latest Corporate Risk Report
Children and Education Transformation Programme Update: Standing Item		Quarter 4 Performance Report	Quarter 4 Performance Report		Goram Homes
Q4 Performance Report			Quarter 1 Risk Report		Mayor's Forward Plan – standing item (will be included for each meeting)
Adoption West Annual Report (noting only)					WECA Forward Plan / WECA Scrutiny minutes – standing item (will be included for each meeting)
October 23					
	11.10.23 4.30pm				
	Healthwatch Updates (Standing Item) To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Menopause services in Bristol • 'Local Voices' report 				
	Access to Dentistry				
	Strengthening hospital discharge processes (reducing number of patients classed as 'no criteria to reside')				

	<i>(Possible joint item with PSC)</i>				
	Update from ICB: Winter Resilience Framework engagement with local primary and community services				
	Update on stroke programme from ICB/NB NHS Trust (Information Paper)				
November 23					
		20.11.23 5.00 pm	27.11.23 5.30pm	21.11.23 4.00 pm	2.11.2023, 6pm (TBC)
		Libraries update – focus on innovation report/lessons learnt and library utilisation/ opportunities for co-location	High Streets update Including Business Improvement Districts (BIDS)	Annual business report	Quarter 1 Performance Report
		Welcoming Spaces and Community Resilience Fund update/lessons learnt	Bristol Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (Statutory Item)	24-25 Council Tax Reduction Scheme consultation outcomes	Bristol Beacon
		Update on community toilets scheme	Bristol and Avon Flood Strategy	Collection Fund surplus/deficit report	City Leap
		Risk Report	Planning Service Update	Council Tax base report	
		Quarter 1 Performance Report	Quarter 1 Performance Report	Digital Transformation programme progress update	
				Quarter 1 Performance Report	
December 23					
				8.12.23 & 15.12.23	04.12.23
14.12.23, 6pm	7.12.23 4pm			8.12.23 - 2.30 - 5.30 pm: scrutiny of 24-25 budget proposals/consultation (part 1); 15.12.23 - 9.30 am - 12.30 pm: scrutiny of 24-25 budget proposals/consultation (part 2)	Transformation programme overview
Learning Disability Update	Healthwatch Updates (Standing Item) To include; • follow-up on 'Your NHS menopause experience' recommendations				
Direct Payments and Community Care	Children's Health: • Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CHAMS) • Hospital Education				Purchase of Properties for the Provision of Children's homes
SEND Update: Standing Item	Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Assessments - Sirona Care & Health – Autism Assessment Criteria				
Adult Social Care Transformation Programme Update: Standing Item					
Children and Education Transformation Programme Update: Standing Item					
Quarter 1 Performance Report					
January 24					

				30.1.24 4.00 pm	
				Scrutiny of 24-25 budget proposals ahead of Budget Council - Part 1	
February 24					
19.2.24,	7.2.24, 4pm	27.2.24 5.00 pm	26.2.24 5.30pm	1.2.24 4.00 pm	
Permanent Exclusion, Suspensions and the Inclusion Hub	Healthwatch Updates (Standing Item)	Community Safety Partnership annual report	Culture. (to include Cultural Investment Programme (CIP))	Scrutiny of 24-25 budget proposals ahead of Budget Council - Part 2	Companies' – performance
Extra-Familial Harm	Health Improvement Teams - To include Dementia Care	Community Asset Transfers update	Strategic Transport Update, to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Corridors • Liveable Neighbourhoods • Active Travel 		Scrutiny Annual Report
'Transitions' (education to employment) Inquiry Day: Outcome and Action Plan		Progress on Ecological Emergency (could involve inviting partners to attend)	Growth & Regeneration Capital Programme Update		
SEND Update: Standing Item					
Adult Social Care Transformation Programme Update: Standing Item					
Children and Education Transformation Programme Update: Standing Item					
March 24					
April 24					
					BCC Business Plan and performance framework
					Companies Business Plans (including City Leap)
Provisional / To be scheduled					
	Quality Accounts: Sirona; AWP; NBT; UHBW; SWAS (April-May 24)		Property Programme (Transformation Programme)	Corporate Performance reports	Clean Air Zone Early closed briefing followed by joint public session with G&R and Health.
			Major regeneration projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western Harbour (TBC – watching brief) • Frome Gateway (TBC – watching brief) 	Corporate Risk reports	Corporate Performance reports

				Finance Monitoring reports and quarterly savings monitoring reports	Corporate Risk reports
				Integration of carbon assessment alongside financial business cases/carbon impact of Capital Programme – joint with G&R	
				Implementation of the new Procurement strategy; Procurement Bill / procurement waivers; Implementing social value policy across strategies and procurement	Relationship with WECA / WECA scrutiny (informing work planning)
				Corporate debt/arrears report – mid-year report	One City Plan refresh
					Clean Air Zone – Enforcement (TBC)
Other Scrutiny Activity					
Page 105	Adult Social Care Transformation Programme Scrutiny Workshops	Landlord Services Task Group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adaptive Homes Housing IT System Housing Allocation Temporary Accommodation Refugees Fire Safety Decent Homes (damp and mould) Decarbonisation 	Parking Strategy (including Workplace Parking Levy) – Working Group or Inquiry Day	Finance Task Group – 24/25 budget preparation and MTFP; first meeting July – financial outlook; regular meetings from August/September (joint sessions where necessary, e.g. with People Scrutiny). To include (autumn): Council Tax Base report; Collection Fund surplus/deficit report	Workshop – Scrutiny Handover
	Children and Education Transformation Programme Scrutiny Workshops	Waste ID (note – to be linked in with OSMB): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future policy Collection methodology 			
	‘Transitions’ Inquiry Day				
Member Briefings					
Fostering / Adoption (All Member Briefing)	Issues relating to Black women/BAME communities, their pregnancies and known poor health outcomes. (Further info TBC in August)	Houses in Multiple Occupancy		Public Health grant & budget – joint with Health – to be included as part of Finance T&F work	City Leap progress
Teen Pregnancy (to include reference to Youth Homelessness). Joint with Health.	Update from AWP (Avon and Wiltshire Partnership) on Riverside CAMHS inpatient unit.			Cyber security and business continuity / financial risk – with Audit (Nov/Dec)	Equalities and Inclusion Strategy
Family Hubs	Update from BNSSG ICB / locality partnerships – Community mental health framework up-date (written update or briefing)			Approach to performance data	Bristol Waste Update
Ofsted Improvement					

Bristol, North Somerset & South Gloucestershire - Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (BNSSG - JHOSC)	
Agenda/s TBC	Date/s TBC
Integrated Care Strategy - BNSSG Integrated Care Board (ICB) <i>TBC if JHOSC or HOSC</i> To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up-date on Strategy & Delivery • Forward Plan • Role of integrated Care Partnership (ICP) and Integrated Care Board (ICB) 	
BNSSG ICB – approach to tackling geographical health inequalities and local planning (<i>timing and details TBC</i>)	
Update from BNSSG ICB / locality partnerships – Community mental health framework (plus potential briefing).	