

Summons to attend meeting of Full Council



Date: Tuesday, 13 December 2016

Time: 2.00 pm

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

To: All Members of Council

Members of the public attending meetings or taking part in Public forum are advised that all Full Council are now filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the council's [webcasting pages](#). The whole of the meeting is filmed (except where there are confidential or exempt items) and the footage will be available for two years. If you ask a question or make a representation, then you are likely to be filmed and will be deemed to have given your consent to this. If you do not wish to be filmed you need to make yourself known to the webcasting staff. However, the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 now means that persons attending meetings may take photographs, film and audio record the proceedings and report on the meeting (Oral commentary is not permitted during the meeting as it would be disruptive). Members of the public should therefore be aware that they may be filmed by others attending and that is not within the council's control.

Issued by: Ian Hird, Democratic Services
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Date: Monday, 5 December 2016



Agenda

1. Welcome and safety information

Please note: if the alarm sounds, everyone at the meeting should please exit the building via the way they came in, via the main entrance lobby area, and then the front ramp. Please then assemble on the paved area in front of the building on College Green by the flag poles.

If the front entrance cannot be used, alternative exits are available via staircases 2 and 3 to the left and right of the Council Chamber. These exit to the rear of the building. The lifts are not to be used. Then please make your way to the assembly point at the front of the building.

Please do not return to the building until instructed to do so by the fire warden(s).

2. Apologies for absence

3. Minutes of previous meetings

a. To agree the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 8 November 2016 as a correct record. **(Pages 12 - 29)**

b. To agree the minutes of the Extraordinary Full Council meeting held on 29 November 2016 as a correct record.

4. Declarations of interest

To note any declarations of interest from the Mayor and 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 declaration of interest made at the meeting which is not on the register of interests should be notified to the Monitoring Officer for inclusion.

5. Lord Mayor's business

To receive and note any announcements from the Lord Mayor.



6. Public forum (public petitions, statements and questions)

Please note:

Up to 30 minutes is allowed for this item.

Public forum items should be e-mailed to

democratic.services@bristol.gov.uk

Public forum items can be about any matter the Council is responsible for or which affects the city.

Please note that the following deadlines apply to this meeting:

a. Public petitions and statements: Petitions and written statements must be received by 12 noon on Monday 12 December 2016 at latest. One written statement per member of the public is permitted.

b. Public questions: Public questions must be received by 5.00 pm on Wednesday 7 December 2016 at latest. A maximum of 2 questions per member of the public is permitted.

7. Petitions notified by councillors

Please note:

Up to 10 minutes is allowed for this item.

Petitions notified by councillors can be about any matter the Council is responsible for or which directly affects the city.

The deadline for the notification of petitions to this meeting is 12 noon on Monday 12 December 2016 at latest.

8. Treasury management mid-year report 2016-17

To note the treasury management mid-year report for 2016-17.

(Pages 30 - 42)

9. Approval of council tax base 2017-18

To agree, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012 that the amount calculated by Bristol City Council as its council tax base for the financial year 2017-18 shall be 124,083.

(Pages 43 - 52)



10. Capital receipts flexibility

To approve the strategy for the flexible use of capital receipts.

(Pages 53 - 57)

11. Review of Minimum Revenue Provision policy

To approve the updated Minimum Revenue Provision policy as set out in appendix B of the report.

(Pages 58 - 65)

12. Appointment of external auditor for 2018-19

To confirm the recommendation of the Audit Committee to accept Public Sector Audit Appointments' (PSAA) invitation to 'opt in' to their sector led scheme to enable the PSAA to appoint an external auditor to audit Bristol City Council's financial statements for 5 financial years commencing 1 April 2018.

(Pages 66 - 70)

13. Human Resources Committee - terms of reference

To agree that the terms of reference of the Human Resources Committee be amended to delegate to the committee the responsibility of agreeing the salary of the Senior Coroner for the Avon coroner area.

(Pages 71 - 74)

14. Motions

To consider motions as follows:

1. Bristol's schools funding

Motion submitted/to be moved by: Cllr Gary Hopkins, Liberal Democrat, Knowle ward

"Council views with great concern the impending cuts in funding to Bristol schools' budgets.

Over the last 15 years, Bristol schools have dramatically improved, being previously judged one of the worst services it is now performing far better than equivalent areas. Huge effort, over a prolonged period, with all party support, has produced a dramatic positive change and over the last few years the pupil premium has helped to reduce inequalities in results and improve funding in Bristol schools.

The freezing of school budgets by the new government has presented challenges to schools but this is added to dramatically by the huge threat



that the reallocation of school grants present.

Bristol will be the hardest hit authority in the country. A cut of £28m to the city's schools' budgets will see the loss of around 1000 teachers and teaching assistants. A loss on average of £577 per pupil in the city.

Bristol Cathedral Primary School, just recently praised as part of the Council's Ofsted report, will see a funding cut of over £1600 per pupil, over a quarter of their funding. Ashley Down Primary school will see a funding cut of over £1000 per pupil and Oasis Academy John Williams over £700 per pupil.

Council also notes with concern the pressure on the SEN budget, that large cuts to SEN funding continue to be implemented to cope with increasing demand and underfunding by Westminster.

Council condemns the proposed cuts in Bristol's schools funding by the Conservative Government.

Council calls on the Mayor and the Cabinet member for Education to meet with Government Cabinet Members and negotiate a better deal for Bristol's schools.

Council requires the Mayor and Cabinet member to report back with a written report to Full Council within 4 months detailing the results of any talks, and the impact of any changes on Bristol's schools."

2. Affordable housing strategy

Motion to be moved / submitted by: Cllr Stephen Clarke, Green, Southville ward

"This Council notes that:

1. The Mayor of London has set out a long-term strategic objective to make half of all new homes built in London affordable.
2. In Bristol, the figure for permissions granted for affordable homes in 2015/16 is only 21% and, of those actually built, less than 10% were affordable.
3. There have been a number of very high profile recent developments where the schemes have included very few affordable homes (culminating in the Chocolate Factory scheme in Easton which initially offered zero).
4. The current viability reporting process which is used to decide on the percentage of affordable housing delivered through the planning system is secretive, open to varying interpretation and widely mistrusted by citizens affected by these decisions.

This Council believes that:

1. The Mayor of Bristol should be no less ambitious than the Mayor



of London in his vision for affordable homes in this city.

2. The viability process needs a significant overhaul to make it fit-for-purpose.

This Council resolves to ask the Mayor to:

1. In the case of schemes which do not comply with the Council's guidance on affordable homes; to instruct planning officers to make all information used in the viability process, whether it arises from a council appointed surveyor or a third party, available publicly in good time before a planning application is to be considered.
2. To instruct council planning officers to continue to look for innovative ways to encourage and incentivize developers to include a mix of affordable and mixed tenure homes in their plans.
3. To make strong representations to central government to:
 - a. remove the borrowing cap on the Housing Revenue Account and
 - b. allow the council to charge Council Tax on the up to 9000 plots in Bristol with planning permission which have not been built on if they have not been developed within a reasonable timescale."

Note:

Under the Council's constitution, 30 minutes are available for the consideration of motions. In practice, this realistically means that there is usually only time for one, or possibly two motions to be considered. With the agreement of the Lord Mayor, motion 1 above will be considered at this meeting, and motion 2 may be considered subject to time. Details of other motions submitted, (which, due to time constraints, are very unlikely to be considered at this meeting) are set out below for information.

3. Budget / public services cuts – call on government to levy a financial transaction tax

Motion submitted by: Cllr Jo Sergeant, Labour, Avonmouth and Lawrence Weston ward

"This Council notes the suffering forced upon local residents as a result of this Government's cuts programme and asserts that there is an



alternative to its ideologically driven attack on public services – namely the levy of a financial transaction tax on the speculative activities that have accelerated the recent enrichment of the few to the detriment of the many. The council therefore calls upon Government to enact the FTT and use the revenues from this measure to reverse ongoing shrinkage in central grants to our council.”

4. Supporting young people from care to independence

Motion submitted by: Cllr Mark Weston, Conservative, Henbury and Brentry ward

“This Council welcomes the recently announced plan to reform the support provided to young people in care and adults leaving local authority control to begin independent lives.

Whilst it is acknowledged that a great deal has been achieved locally to advance the lot of these individuals, more needs to be done to improve the experience of children in residential care and their long-term outcomes.

Sadly, there is still a huge disparity between what is expected of and achieved by this cohort compared to their counterparts amongst the general population. For example, in 2014, only 15.3% of Bristol's children in care reached the benchmark of five A*-C GCSEs - as opposed to the national average of 53% for non-looked after youngsters.

Moreover, statistically, a far greater proportion of 19-21 year old care leavers are more likely to end up as Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) with all the disadvantages that this status entails for their future prospects.

Council believes in the fundamental principle that a good Corporate Parent will have exactly the same aspirations for all those to whom the local authority has this special responsibility just as a parent has for their very own child.

Accordingly, Council calls on the Mayor to endorse and apply the strategy set out by the Government in its paper "Keep on Caring - supporting young people from care to independence" to find new ways of delivering services to this particularly vulnerable and often marginalised community.”

5. Clause 21 – The Bus Services Bill

Motion submitted by: Cllr Eleanor Combley, Green, Bishopston and Ashley Down ward

“Full Council notes:

1. That the Bus Services Bill currently passing through Parliament,



as originally proposed, included Clause 21 that will effectively “prohibit a local authority from forming a company for the purposes of providing a local bus service”.

2. The House Of Lords voted for an amendment that got rid of clause 21.
3. That the Localism Act (2011) provides general powers of competence to local authorities.
4. That municipal bus companies like Reading and Nottingham provide some of the best bus services in the country and have a successful track record of increasing bus passenger numbers and providing high quality bus services.
5. That polling by We Own It found that a majority of the public (57%) oppose clause 21, whilst just 22% support it. The opposition to Clause 21 is consistent across voters from all political parties.

Full Council believes:

1. Clause 21 contradicts the general powers of competence and the spirit of the Localism Act 2011.
2. If there is a need and a demand from their public, then Councils should be able to provide their own bus services.
3. Should they wish, Councils should be legally able to follow the model developed by Reading and Nottingham.
4. Consequently Clause 21- or any clause to a similar effect - should be omitted from the Bus Services Bill and the government should refrain from bringing such a clause back into the Bill as it goes through the Commons.

Full Council resolves to ask the Mayor:

1. To write to Lord Ahmad and to call on the Department for Transport to omit Clause 21 – or any ban of new public bus companies - from the final legislation.
2. To write to all Bristol MPs to ask them to oppose or continue to oppose clause 21 or similar in the House of Commons and ask them to write to Lord Ahmad and the Department of Transport to raise concerns about Clause 21.
3. To publicise our opposition to clause 21 and any ban on public ownership of buses in the local media.”

6. Living Rent

Motion submitted by: Cllr Charlie Bolton, Green, Southville ward

“Full Council notes:

- The desperate situation faced by many Bristol residents in the private rented sector. While welcoming potential government moves to stop up-front letting agent fees, there is clearly a need to take further action to limit the amounts tenants are forced to pay out just to have somewhere to live.



- That the London Assembly is consulting on proposals for a 'Living Rent', after both Sian Berry (Green) and Sadiq Khan (Labour)'s mayoral campaigns focused on getting a better deal for renters.

Full Council resolves to ask the Mayor to:

1. Investigate the pros and cons of introducing a Living Rent in Bristol;
2. Determine the level at which such a rent should be set;
3. Produce a plan to determine how best to make such a 'Living Rent' fully effective, including whether it should apply to the whole private rental sector or a subset (as London's is proposed to do);
4. Lobby MPs and Government for the power to implement such a 'Living Rent'."

7. Small business Saturday

Motion submitted by: Cllr Afzal Shah, Labour, Easton ward

"Council recognises the contribution to Bristol's economy from small and medium sized enterprises. We further note that according to Centre for Economics and Business Research (CEBR), SME contribution to the Bristol economy is predicted to rise by 14 per cent from £3,690,123,363 in 2015 to £4,215,003,215 in 2020.

As a Council we congratulate all who participated in Small Business Saturday on 3rd December and those who support SME businesses all year round and resolve to continue to work in partnership with Bristol's small and medium sized enterprises to the benefit of our city."

8. Inclusive growth

Motion submitted by: Cllr Afzal Shah, Labour, Easton ward

"This Council is committed to the principle of Inclusive Growth and we welcome the interim findings of the RSA's Inclusive Growth Commission. We believe that unless growth includes everyone, it is ultimately self-defeating costing the state and wasting talent and that addressing the 'inclusivity gap' could increase UK GVA by £192bn every year. We believe that to achieve growth for all we must integrate social and economic policy, press for devolved powers that are social as well as economic, and – where we can – prioritise prevention and early intervention. We believe Theresa May's Government must also put inclusion at the heart of its forthcoming industrial strategy, making sure we invest in both physical and human infrastructure and connect more people to economic opportunities through initiatives like devolved skills budgets. We also support the idea of a different measure, a 'quality GVA', to track growth. This would enable us to measure not just hard economic numbers, but also changes in inequality, the impact of investment upon our deprived



populations and how far economic prosperity is spreading.”

9. West of England Spatial Strategy and Joint Transport Plan

Motion submitted by: Cllr Tim Kent, Liberal Democrat, Hengrove and Whitchurch Park ward

“Council notes that on 1st November, Cabinet agreed to endorse a consultation on the Emerging Spatial Strategy and the Joint Transport Study. And to agree a minimum period of consultation of six weeks on these two documents.

The Joint Spatial plan will be a new statutory development plan for the four unitary authorities of the West of England covering the period 2016-2036. It will look to deliver 105,000 new homes for the region, and an additional 33,000 new homes above and beyond current local plans.

The plan includes proposals of an additional 12,000 homes in the Bristol Council area above that already in the local plan. A green belt urban extension at Whitchurch village of 3,500 homes. Large urban extensions have been ruled out at Hicks Gate and Ashton Vale.

Council believes our region needs additional housing and recognises the importance of these documents and the need to provide more homes and far better sustainable transport connectivity.

Council notes with grave concern that the Cabinet decision closes the consultation on 19th December.

Council is concerned that the options for consultation are too restricted and that additional options should have been considered and presented at this point.

Council is concerned that the Whitchurch Urban extension proposal is sited at a location with very poor sustainable transport links.

Council calls on the Mayor to extend consultation on both documents until the end of January to give communities and interested parties reasonable time to examine and respond to the documents in detail.

Council calls on the Mayor to consider more sustainable alternatives to the Whitchurch urban extension and that more weight should be given to sustainable travel than is currently the case within the documents.”

10. Parking

Motion submitted by: Cllr Gary Hopkins, Liberal Democrat, Knowle ward

“This Council believes that parking on grass verges and pavements is a widespread problem that requires localised solutions to find the right



balance between the needs of pedestrians, particularly disabled and parents, and those seeking to park their vehicles. In some areas the need for effective enforcement is clear and it is the lack of appropriate regulations that is the easily identifiable problem. In others, the balance of need is less clear.

This council therefore calls upon the Mayor to thoroughly examine and, unless found to be unsuitable, adopt the strategy used in Milton Keynes. This is to have one blanket traffic regulation order but to only enforce where there is clear, positive local demand to do so.

This approach could reduce cost, remove traffic officers from having to make difficult value judgements and allow local residents to help find solutions.”

Signed



Proper Officer
Monday, 5 December 2016

