

Bristol City Council

Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board



3 September 2018 at 3.00 pm

Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board Present (in full or part); Councillors Geoff Gollop (Chair), Don Alexander, Charlie Bolton (substituting for Paula O'Rourke), Tom Brook, Stephen Clarke, Gary Hopkins, Claire Hiscott, Carole Johnson, Olly Mead (substituting for Jo Sergeant) Celia Phipps and Estella Tincknell.

Other Members present (in full or part); Councillors Nicola Beech, Craig Cheney and Paul Smith.

1. Welcome, Introductions and Safety Information

The Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

Councillors Sergeant and O'Rourke sent apologies.

It was noted that Councillor Mead attended as substitute for Councillor Sergeant and Councillor Bolton attended as substitute for Councillor O'Rourke.

Councillors Alexander and Tincknell advised they would need to leave early.

3. Declarations of Interest

None received.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes from the following meetings were approved as a correct record;

12th April 18



18th June 18

Call in Sub Committee - 26th June 18

5. Chair's Business

The Chair advised that parts of the meeting relating to Bristol Energy, the Arena and the Companies would be held in exempt session.

The Board agreed that a statement to Cabinet would be submitted setting out their ongoing concerns in relation to the population of the Forward Plan. Details as follows;

- *Members of OSM note the Mayors Forward Plan issued on 6 August 2018 and are disappointed that all 14 items scheduled for decision between 6th August and April next year are new, and due to be decided at the 4 September Cabinet meeting.*
- *This clearly provides no opportunity for pre-decision scrutiny of the majority of these items, not least because the papers were not released until Council offices had closed on the Friday evening of the bank holiday weekend week before the Cabinet meeting, (meaning exempt papers were not available until after the bank holiday).*
- *The Forward Plan should be a key part of the decision-making process and is fundamental to the checks and balances that form part of the governance of the Council.*
- *This failure is not new, but is getting worse, in that there has never before been a Cabinet meeting where none of the items were on the Forward Plan 5 weeks before the meeting.*
- *After the publication of the Forward Plan a further confidential item was added to the Cabinet agenda relating to Bristol Energy, even though the need for that item should have been known in advance.*
- *Can I register the serious concern of OSM members and ask that urgent action is taken to improve the Forward Plan and Executive interaction with scrutiny.*
- *As a result of the above, OSM was only able to include a very small number of items on its agenda and wishes to register the following comments.*

RESOLVED; that the comments set out above be referred to the Cabinet for consideration at their meeting on 4th September 18.

6. Public Forum

The following public forum was received and a copy placed in the minute book;

No.	Name	Agenda Item
1.	Arena Island Limited	9 - Arena Update Report
2.	Stephen Leyland	9 - Arena Update Report



7. Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED;

That under s.100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of schedule 12A of the Act.

8. Bristol Energy Operational Plan

9. Arena Update Report

10 Creation of the Housing Company - for Information Only

11 Companies Governance Review Action Plan - for Information Only

12 Work Programme

The Work Programme was noted.

The meeting ended at 17.40

CHAIR _____

