

Summons to attend meeting of Full Council



Date: Tuesday, 8 September 2020

Time: 6.00 pm

Venue: Virtual Meeting - Zoom Committee Meeting
with Public Access via YouTube

To: All Members of Council

Issued by: Sam Wilcock, Democratic Services

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Date: Thursday, 27 August 2020



Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions

(Pages 23 - 25)

2. Apologies for Absence

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 the Previous Meeting

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

(Pages 26 - 40)

5. Lord Mayor's Business

To note any announcements from the Lord Mayor

6. Public Forum (Public Petitions, Statements and Questions)

Public forum items can be about any matter the Council is responsible for or which directly affects the city. Submissions will be treated in order of receipt and as many people shall be called upon as is possible within the time allowed within the meeting (normally 30 minutes). Further rules can be found within our [Council Procedure Rules](#) and [Virtual Meeting Procedure Rules](#) within the Constitution.

Please note that the following deadlines apply to this meeting:

a. Public petitions and statements: Petitions and written statements must be received by **12 noon on Monday 7 September 2020** at latest. One written statement per member of the public is permitted.

b. Public questions: Written public questions must be received by **5pm**



on **Wednesday 2nd September 2020** at latest. A maximum of 2 questions per member of the public is permitted. Questions should be addressed to the Mayor or relevant Cabinet Member.

c. Members of the public who wish to present their public forum in person during the video conference must register their interest by giving at least two clear working days notice prior to the meeting by midday on **Friday 4th September 2020**.

Public forum items should be e-mailed to democratic.services@bristol.gov.uk

Further information can be found within the public information sheet attached to this agenda

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 7th September 2020**.

8. Petition Debate : Save Jubilee Pool

(Pages 41 - 42)

9. Report from Youth Mayors/ Youth Council

10. Annual Report of the Audit Committee

(Pages 43 - 54)

11. Motions

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 below will be considered at this meeting, and motion 2 is likely to 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 also set out for information.



MOTIONS RECEIVED FOR FULL COUNCIL – 8 SEPTEMBER 2020**Save Jubilee Pool (Golden Motion)**

This Council is concerned that the future of this much-loved south Bristol swimming pool has once again been put under a cloud of uncertainty by the Labour Mayor.

The last review, conducted in 2017, over the cost of running this heritage facility, resulted in a plan and a promise to subsidise it for a further five years. Council is therefore surprised that a consultation has now been launched around its proposed closure unless a community asset transfer can take place, even though the Administration's own consultation does not recommend this course of action.

Given that this leisure pool serves some of the most economically deprived parts of the city, it seems unlikely and unrealistic to expect local users to muster sufficient finance to secure such an acquisition.

Consequently, Council calls on the Mayor to (i) withdraw this threat over the pool; (ii) allocate the necessary (and relatively modest) capital and revenue funding to enable it to continue to operate in a COVID secure and safe way, and; (iii) honour the previous agreement made with the provider Parkwood Leisure to maintain this public amenity until at least 2022.

Motion to be moved by: Cllr Graham Morris

Date of submission: 26th August 2020

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Atonement and Reparation for Bristol's role in the Transatlantic Traffic in Enslaved Africans (TTEA) (Silver Motion)**This council notes that:**

1. Bristol played a major role in the Transatlantic Traffic in Enslaved Africans (TTEA) which saw at least 15 million Africans forcibly trafficked to the Caribbean and America with many thousands losing their lives during the crossing from Africa to the Americas on ships registered in Bristol. A significant amount of the institutional and corporate wealth of our city was founded through this hugely regrettable inhumane episode in our collective history. 'By the latter half of the century, Bristol's position had been overtaken by Liverpool. But even as late as 1789, the trade to Africa and the West Indies was estimated to have comprised over 80 per cent of the total value of Bristol's trade abroad.' (1)

2. Around 2 million people of African descent live in the United Kingdom itself,



including an estimated 30,000 plus in Bristol which includes a high percentage of African Caribbean descendants. (2)

3. In 1833 the British Government used £20 million to compensate enslavers, the debt for which was not paid off until 2015. Formerly enslaved persons received no compensation.

4. ‘The United Nations Basic Principles and Guidelines on the ‘Right to A Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Gross Violations of International Human Rights Law and Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law’ provides a framework for the reparatory justice system including, among other measures: an investigation of the facts, an official acknowledgment, and apology, a receipt of answers; an opportunity for victims to speak in a public forum about his/her experiences and to be actively involved the reparatory justice process.

5. The various efforts made by community activists and movements including the Countering Colston Campaign, the Council’s legacy steering committee, the International Network of Scholars and Activists for Afrikan Reparations (INOSAAR), the Pan-Afrikan Reparations Coalition in Europe (PARCOE), CARICOM (Caribbean Community and Common Market) Reparations Committee, the Stop The Maangamizi Campaign, the Global Afrikan People's Parliament (GAPP), The Afrikan Emancipation Day Reparations March Committee; and many others who have been working for many years to raise awareness of the lasting impact of enslavement.

6. The progress made in educating young people in Bristol on African Caribbean and ‘Black’ history, culture and achievements through the city-wide One Bristol Curriculum.

Full Council believes:

1. It must be a priority for Bristol to actively acknowledge this history and actively seek to bring about reconciliation and reparations by lending and leading its voice as an institution towards remedial holistic reparations and action towards the legacies that continue to plague contemporary life for descendants of the African Caribbean enslaved. The continuation of harm and discrimination manifests itself in but is not limited to: over representation in the mental health system, discrimination within the criminal justice system, poverty and disadvantage.

2. The International Decade for People of African Descent, proclaimed by UN General Assembly resolution 68/237 and to be observed from 2015 to 2024, provides a solid framework for the United Nations, Member States, civil society and all other relevant actors to join together with people of African descent and take effective measures for the implementation of the programme of activities in the spirit of recognition, justice and development. Such a process is long overdue in Bristol.

Full Council resolves:



To call on the Mayor or other appropriate council agency to:

1. Ensure the scope of the commission recently announced includes an audit to trace the flow of wealth from the (TTEA) into the city of Bristol and its citizens and down the generations to the present day. The commission should also call on those Bristol institutions, families and corporations with historic ties to (TTEA) to share their understanding of their role, and clarify what measures they will put in place to work with African Caribbean heritage communities, to agreed measures and implement steps towards holistic reparations for African Caribbean heritage communities.
2. Write to the Prime Minister to request that the UK government immediately establishes an All-Party Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry for Truth & Reparatory Justice to acknowledge, apologise and instigate reparations for the (TTEA) the experience and extent of which is further understood by campaigners as the Maangamizi. (3)
3. Write to the Chancellor to raise concerns about how tax payers were until 2015 paying back compensation paid to enslavers. A petition gaining 10,000 signatures expresses the disgust at this fact, which many people, not just those of African Caribbean descent, find completely abhorrent. (4)
4. To ensure all schools in Bristol are implementing the ‘One Bristol Curriculum’, and request that independent private schools and academies do so as well.
5. Carry out an audit to establish the living conditions for people of African descent living in council housing and other dwellings and see that it is fit for purpose.
6. In collaboration with CORE (Commission of Racial Equality) and other partners, seek to scrutinise and lobby the health and criminal justice systems including but not limited to providing and resourcing culturally competent mental health provision for African descent people inside and outside of the prison service and better representation in terms of ethnicity on parole boards.
7. To protect and support long-standing black-led cultural institutions of the city that continue to be severely underfunded and under resourced, either through direct council intervention or by brokering relationships with institutions in the city. Such institutions may include the Malcolm X Centre, the Kuumba Centre, the Docklands Settlement and the Rastafari Cultural Centre.

Motion to be moved by: Cllr Cleo Lake

Date of submission: 26 August 2020

Footnotes

- 1) <https://www.bristolmuseums.org.uk/stories/bristol-transatlantic-slave-trade/>
- 2) Estimates based on most recent census (2011)
- 3) The terms of reference for this commission of inquiry should focus on



the need to inform the public of the nature of colonialism and enslavement, as well as its long-term consequences including present-day impacts upon both individuals and communities. The Commission's work should be of a participatory nature, calling for submissions from all those with knowledge of the nature and impacts of colonialism and slavery.

This will aim to include, but not be limited to, testimony from: individuals, organisations, academics, communities, and nations. Affected communities and individuals must have their own voice, agency, and self-determined solutions in effecting reparatory justice and steps must be taken to facilitate their participation in any reparatory process in which the United Kingdom is engaged.

Ultimately the goal is to secure holistic reparations - including but not limited to financial compensation - as defined by the UN's 'Basic Principles and Guidelines'. These include mechanisms for restitution, compensation, rehabilitation, satisfaction and guarantees for non-repetition. See notes below.

- 4) <https://www.change.org/p/refund-our-taxes-paid-to-compensate-enslavers>

Notes:

Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Gross Violations of International Human Rights Law and Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law

Adopted and proclaimed by General Assembly resolution 60/147 of 16 December 2005

1. *Restitution* should, whenever possible, restore the victim to the original situation before the gross violations of international human rights law or serious violations of international humanitarian law occurred. Restitution includes, as appropriate: restoration of liberty, enjoyment of human rights, identity, family life and citizenship, return to one's place of residence, restoration of employment and return of property.
2. *Compensation* should be provided for any economically assessable damage, as appropriate and proportional to the gravity of the violation and the circumstances of each case, resulting from gross violations of international human rights law and serious violations of international humanitarian law, such as:
 - (a) Physical or mental harm;
 - (b) Lost opportunities, including employment, education and social benefits;
 - (c) Material damages and loss of earnings, including loss of earning potential;
 - (d) Moral damage;
 - (e) Costs required for legal or expert assistance, medicine and medical services, and psychological and social services.



3. *Rehabilitation* should include medical and psychological care as well as legal and social services.

4. *Satisfaction* should include, where applicable, any or all of the following:

- (a) Effective measures aimed at the cessation of continuing violations;
- (b) Verification of the facts and full and public disclosure of the truth to the extent that such disclosure does not cause further harm or threaten the safety and interests of the victim, the victim's relatives, witnesses, or persons who have intervened to assist the victim or prevent the occurrence of further violations;
- (c) The search for the whereabouts of the disappeared, for the identities of the children abducted, and for the bodies of those killed, and assistance in the recovery, identification and reburial of the bodies in accordance with the expressed or presumed wish of the victims, or the cultural practices of the families and communities;
- (d) An official declaration or a judicial decision restoring the dignity, the reputation and the rights of the victim and of persons closely connected with the victim;
- (e) Public apology, including acknowledgement of the facts and acceptance of responsibility;
- (f) Judicial and administrative sanctions against persons liable for the violations;
- (g) Commemorations and tributes to the victims;
- (h) Inclusion of an accurate account of the violations that occurred in international human rights law and international humanitarian law training and in educational material at all levels.

5. *Guarantees of non-repetition* should include, where applicable, any or all of the following measures, which will also contribute to prevention:

- (a) Ensuring effective civilian control of military and security forces;
- (b) Ensuring that all civilian and military proceedings abide by international standards of due process, fairness and impartiality;
- (c) Strengthening the independence of the judiciary;
- (d) Protecting persons in the legal, medical and health-care professions, the media and other related professions, and human rights defenders;
- (e) Providing, on a priority and continued basis, human rights and international humanitarian law education to all sectors of society and training for law enforcement officials as well as military and security forces;
- (f) Promoting the observance of codes of conduct and ethical norms, in particular international standards, by public servants, including law enforcement, correctional, media, medical, psychological, social service and military personnel, as well as by economic enterprises;
- (g) Promoting mechanisms for preventing and monitoring social conflicts and their resolution;
- (h) Reviewing and reforming laws contributing to or allowing gross violations of international human rights law and serious violations of international humanitarian law.

Other notes:

- Legacies of British Slave-ownership - UCL: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/>



- Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation – UN Office of the High Commissioner:
<https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/remedyandrepairation.aspx>

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3. Protecting jobs, recovering from the pandemic

Full Council notes:

1. The Labour golden motion passed by Full Council in July, which again underlines Mayor Marvin Rees' administration's twin priorities of social and environmental justice.
2. As well as suffering the most excess deaths in Europe during the coronavirus (covid-19) pandemic, the UK has now entered the deepest recession of the world's largest advanced economies (G7).
3. Government incompetence risked writing off the talent and hard work of Bristol's young people – and therefore our economic future – through the avoidable chaos around A Level and BTEC results.

Full Council believes:

1. The Government is prematurely closing the furlough scheme, putting Bristolians' jobs at risk.
2. The Government should support calls for sector specific relief programmes to protect jobs and pay, including for aerospace, hospitality and other particularly affected industries.
3. The Government should implement the Time Out to Help Out campaign, launched by Labour Metro Mayors and the Trades Union Congress, which would support people to self-isolate to reduce the spread of coronavirus.

Full Council resolves:

1. To encourage the West of England Combined Authority to formally back the extension of the furlough scheme and the introduction of sector-specific support.
2. To request that the Mayor of the West of England finally backs the Time Out to Help Out campaign started by Mayors Andy Burnham and Steve Rotherham in the north west of England.
3. To request that the Leader of the Opposition (Councillor Weston) puts aside party politics and publicly joins Marvin in lobbying for the furlough scheme, sector-specific support, and the Time Out to Help Out campaign, as well as pressing his Government to close the financial gap faced by local authorities as a result of the pandemic.



To be moved by: Councillor Helen Godwin (Labour – Southmead)

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4. No Supermarkets Compact

This Council notes that retail and distribution workers have been at the front line of the Covid-19 crisis, facing a high-pressured environment and that supermarkets have made many adaptations to keep the city running during the lockdown. This commitment and innovation could be extended to deliver greater permanent benefits.

The Council notes a number of challenges within the retail and distribution sector that hamper the city's sustainability aspirations. These challenges include, but not exclusively:

- extensive usage of a wide range of packaging materials
- continuing use of materials, particularly plastics, with poor recycling outcomes
- excessive levels of wastage, particularly of food
- increasing heavy vehicular distribution-miles, both cross-countries and within the city

The Council regrets that it lacks the regulatory powers to control the negative outcomes from some large commercial organisations in the city and the resources required to resolve and mitigate some of these issues. This Council notes the announcements and actions by more conscientious firms to address some of these issues to reduce their costs and be more responsible.

This Council notes the unacceptable level of food poverty in our city.

This Council notes the increasing challenges around goods delivery vehicles in our city and the use of freight consolidation which is attempting to reduce the volume of traffic and improve air quality.

This Council notes that a successful plan to deliver carbon neutrality by 2030 will require committed leadership to inspire common purpose in everyone and across all groups in our city

This Council notes that much customer packaging places volume and disposal demands on the city's waste services, while their bulk packaging is also unsustainable though disposed through commercial operators.

This Council notes that a proposal to address these issues is supported by research and a dossier of detailed responses from all of the eight major supermarkets, which has been prepared by a BCC scrutiny committee and was commended by a committee of the Core Cities team.

The Council resolves to thank our retail and distribution workers.

A focused and co-operative approach might deliver multiple benefits, including a:

- reduction in the use of plastic
- reduction in food waste



- reduction in delivery-miles
- rewarding sustainable practice
- getting out our sustainability message through big players to the shopping public
- tackling at source some resulting issues currently funded through the public purse

The Council resolves to set up a working group to engage with key stakeholders, including supermarkets, councillors and trade unions, to resolve these challenges.

Council therefore resolves to launch the first core-city co-operative initiative of its kind:

Council resolves that this working group will explore a Supermarkets Charter with the major chains in Bristol where the City council sets a small number of key criteria that will benefit the city and promotes a 'Kitemark'- type scheme awarding recognition as each is achieved. This would recognise good practice in a competitive market increasingly sensitive to improving sustainability, and enable customers to make informed choices, with the 'Kitemark' displayed on their premises and promotional literature.

Such a scheme would be a simple and highly visible way of advancing our sustainability ambitions. It would be co-operative, competitive and catalytic while fair and sustainable. It would be a cost-effective way for this city to offer mutual solutions to long-standing common problems. It would be a bold advance in the crucial community engagement measures to deliver real-life sustainability, closer to source. We request the Mayor to take this forward through the most appropriate structures.

Motion to be presented by: Cllr. Anthony Negus (Cotham, LibDem councillor)

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5. Growing Provision of Allotments across the City

“This Council recognises the long established benefits derived from the provision of small agricultural holdings and allotments to individuals and families. These sites give people the chance to take productive exercise and grow cheap food but, also, are valued for other reasons such as providing educational opportunities, help to build communities and offer some protection to the local environment.

Council notes the commitment previously given by the Mayor to **'have community gardens and allotments in every ward'** but is anxious to ensure that such rhetoric translates into action.

At present, the Authority has 497 vacancies with a waiting list of 5665



people. Council is concerned that much suitable land held by the Authority for this purpose is either underutilised or could be de-registered for development, ironically, when there is likely to be a growing desire and demand to maintain an allotment.

Accordingly, Council calls on the Mayor to pledge to preserve, protect and promote existing sites; to increase the size of this network; extend the number which are accorded (limited) ‘statutory’ protection under current legislation; and ensure that all those who want access to a plot, are able to do so.”

Motion to be moved by: Cllr Graham Morris (Conservative Councillor)

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6. Restoring Political Partnership Working

Council was disappointed to learn of concerns over a lack of collaborative working within the West of England Combined Authority (WECA).

Whilst there appears to be some dispute over the accuracy of this assessment or assertion, Council calls on the Mayor to use this moment as a chance to restate his early promise and commitment to ‘renew our democracy’ in Bristol by pursuing a more inclusive form of executive decision-making.

At present, many members feel marginalised through withheld information, and find the ‘opportunity to contribute’, shape or influence policies which impact our city extremely limited.

Council agrees with the Mayor that often a ‘collective effort ensures maximum impact’.

Whilst it is still too early to determine the true scale of the effect on the local authority’s finances arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, Council urges the Mayor to embrace a genuine all-Party approach to tackling this public health crisis. Moves to secure extra support from Central Government to cover these costs need to be cooperative and coordinated.

To this end, Council asks that the Mayor convene a Party Group Leaders meeting at the earliest possible juncture with the aim of achieving cross-party consensus and joint strategy in the lobbying of Central Government and West of England Combined Authority.

The challenges confronting our city in this regard dictate that traditional rivalries should be put aside for the greater good of maintaining essential frontline services upon which Bristolians depend.



Motion to be moved by: Cllr Mark Weston (Conservative Councillor)

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7. Expanding Adult Training Programmes

This Council welcomes the recent adult training initiatives introduced by Government such as the National Retraining Scheme and, regionally, the WECA Employment & Skills Plan, designed to help adults access better jobs or pursue new careers due to changes in the economy.

“Whilst the social and economic impact of the Corona virus has yet to unfold over the months and possibly years ahead, it is vital that all those who are unfortunately made unemployed as a result of this crisis have access to full-time, vocational, technical or traditional craft apprenticeships.

“Council believes that this challenge could best be met by a revival in city-based learning hubs like the often wrongly maligned former polytechnics and Government industrial training centres. Sadly, provision such as the Skillscentre network closed in 1993 but they served as a highly effective means or bridge into employment. Restoration of these institutions can equip people with the skills needed to adapt to the new world of work and help fill any identified skills gaps in the regional workforce.

“Accordingly, Council calls in the Mayor to work through WECA to make the urgent case to Government for a greatly expanded and accelerated investment programme, to create additional sites in the city to cater for the anticipated surge in demand for these services, at least in the short to medium term.”

Motion to be moved by: Cllr Matt Melias (Conservative Councillor)

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8. The Government’s White Paper ‘Planning for the Future’

This Council:

- appreciates the merit of the present hierarchy of planning in the UK. Where it works well the system allows for local neighbourhood plans and for consultation and engagement with the preparation of Local Plans and the Sub-Regional joint Spatial Plan
- accepts the need for such plans to be approved, and sometimes overruled, by central government to comply with overall national



criteria

- acknowledges the necessity for certain infrastructure works to be subject to special Permitted Development rules where government restricts local consultation and democracy for strategic reasons
- recognises the value of transparency and fairness throughout the planning system so that citizens voices can be heard amid the wider assembly of guidance for the justification for new development and how this can or cannot be reasonably accommodated within suitable local policy frameworks formed from national guidance and approved for use by central government
- supports the high target it has set for new housebuilding in and around Bristol to sustain its local growth and is generally satisfied with the way it has administered the present planning system to approve a high percentage of developers planning applications.

Council further notes that the Government Planning White Paper ‘Planning for the Future’ dated 6th August 2020 proposes:

- Local Plans are to be produced under government direction and with targets set nationally, even extending to local areas
- that areas are to be classified as Growth, Renewal or Protected with designated Conservation Areas not automatically ‘protected’.
- No planning consent will be required in Growth areas and only minimal checks will be required in Renewal areas.
- Domestic houses will be allowed up to two storey extensions with no approvals or objection from neighbours
- local planning committees will be effectively abolished or rendered toothless so inappropriate siting, quality, design and other impacts will no longer be capable of challenge
- buildings can be removed and replaced with poor quality housing without checks on reasonable space standards or even natural light so sanctioning worsening public health for volume housing and the creation of ‘modern slums’ *
- The present overall development tax, the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is to be nationally restructured so that it no longer reflects a locally-fair contribution; the individual development mitigation arrangements (S106), are to be abolished.
- no alternative is indicated to replace the affordable housing (currently 26,800 nationally or 50% of the affordable housing built last year) which was achieved through S106 arrangements, that are to be abandoned
- the size of development that requires a proportion of affordable housing is to be downgraded from 10 to 50 units which will



seriously reduce the best source of essential affordable housing

Council regrets:

- the proposals do not address the fundamental acknowledged blocks, stemming from land valuation, finance and tenure limitations, particularly prevalent in the UK, to increasing the supply of housing, particularly affordable housing
- the government’s belief that the planning system is the cause of delay in building new housing whereas instead it is the way that housebuilding is financed within this country that encourages developers to use planning permissions as a means of adding value over time
- the proposals restrict rather than enhance the present opportunities to provide much-needed affordable housing of an acceptable standard
- there is no acknowledgement, or attempt to resolve, the ‘log-jam’ to building which is the hoarding of planning permissions by developers due to the unrealistic relationship of land price to sales value and the reluctance of financiers to embrace large-scale rented development
- the escalation in Permitted Development Rights with its removal of sensible controls and enforcement over development that has already exposed poor quality and reduced numbers of affordable housing
- the proposals presage a very different relationship across the country between local and national government and a compact with the people with a clear loss of local and regional democracy
- this democracy and community support built in to the present system is being sacrificed because of a misapprehension that the current seven year cycle of Local Plans, derived from government timetables, is a block to development rather than a constantly evolving resource
- the proposals ignore the hard-to-improve results from the system at present: 90% of all developments are approved within the current planning system; 65% of refusals that go to appeal are turned down by the inspector
- nationally 1, 000, 000 homes granted planning permission in the last 10 years are still unbuilt despite, in some cases, having been required to be resubmitted for approval three times. This is twice the five years quoted by the Minister as the delay caused by the planning system “to getting a spade in the ground”
- The proposals make no attempt to address this virtually automatic serial re-approval with no penalty or requirement to complete the permitted development within the period of the permission
- the Local Government Association, the Town and Country Planning Association, the Royal Town Planning Institute, the Royal



Institute of British Architects should all have seen the need to condemn the proposals

Council resolves to request the Mayor:

- to make early representations to government along with other members of the Core Cities Group and fellow planning authorities within WECA, leading the way for other councils around the country expressing concerns about the removal of local democratic control promised by previous governments as part of the benefits of adopting a mayoral system
- to instruct officers to prepare a strong response to the consultation across the areas of governance, democracy, local knowledge, quality control and reduction in affordable housing delivered, and any others that become apparent during this process
- to advertise the consultation and invite representations from the Bristol public to the government
- to strive to maintain the consensus within this council to explore creative opportunities for maximising the delivery of sustainable housing, independently and with others, affordable by all our citizens whatever their need and circumstance.

Notes: * a government commissioned study published in July 2020 (carried out by University College, London and the University of Liverpool) has shown that poorer quality homes are being created from Permitted Development than through the existing planning system. They are less likely to achieve national space standards, are more likely to be deficient with natural daylight

Motion to be presented by Cllr. Anthony Negus (Cotham, LibDem councillor)

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9. Mobilise community investments to tackle climate change

Full Council notes:

1. That this council unanimously declared a climate emergency in November 2018 following a Green Motion to Council
2. The motion committed the city to achieve net zero carbon impact by 2030 and there are now 10 years left to this target date
3. The council has been progressing a package of low carbon opportunities called City Leap since May 2018. City Leap is still subject to a procurement process since a new process was started in 2020.
4. A new low risk model called Community Municipal Investments [CMI] has been developed by Leeds University and Abundance Investments platform with UK Government and EU support. This had the support of 4 local authorities including Bristol City Council.



[1]

5. This new concept is a way to channel local savings into local projects with low risk and a modest return to investors [2].

Full Council believes:

1. That offering local savers a way to support the city’s journey to carbon neutrality should be developed.
2. That offering security and a modest rate of interest through municipal bonds is an established way to develop local infrastructure [3]. This could complement other projects such as the successful Bristol Energy Cooperative.
3. That CMLs can help us develop a low carbon city now in partnership with others.
4. The Mayor should prioritise CMLs as part of the package of investments that will create positive economic opportunities and carbon neutrality
5. Bristol should join the other 3 pioneers of CML in developing local opportunities for local investors [e.g. 4]

Full Council resolves:

1. To call on the Mayor to begin development of Community Municipal Investments for the city.
2. That the Mayor promote CMI as a way residents and institutions can contribute to a new zero carbon city.
3. To request officers to identify carbon saving projects suited to CMI investment in conjunction with city partners.

Motion to be moved by: Cllr Martin Fodor (Green Councillor)

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10. Proportional Representation

In the 2019 General Election, Full Council notes that the 'First Past the Post' voting system:

1. Has again failed to elect a government representing the majority of voters, with the Conservative party winning 43% of the popular vote, yet gaining over half of the seats in parliament.
2. Has again yielded a wildly disproportionate allocation of seats with, for example, the Democratic Unionist Party gaining 8 seats from 244,127 votes compared with 11 seats from 3.6 million votes for the Liberal Democrats.
3. Has spectacularly failed to match votes to seats with, for example, only 25,882 Scottish National Party votes cast for each SNP MP elected, compared with over 800,000 Green votes resulting in the election of one Green Party MP.
4. Has resulted in 70.8% of votes being ‘wasted’ i.e. having no effect on the outcome of the election. The largest number of ignored votes in any UK constituency was in Bristol West with 56,718 votes being ignored (either votes cast for a losing candidate or



surplus votes).

Full Council further notes:

1. That worldwide, FPTP systems inherited from colonial rule cause the under-representation of minority groups, contributing to ethnic tensions and instability [1].
2. That no country using FPTP achieves greater than 40% female representation in parliament. [2]
3. That there is a statistically significant link between countries using proportional election systems and having lower levels of income inequality [3], and scoring more highly on the United Nations Index of Human Development [4].
4. That the Single Transferable Vote system is already used for local elections in Scotland, where it has led to an increase in turnout and voter confidence in the electoral process [5], and in both Northern Irish local elections and the Northern Ireland Assembly. Other proportional electoral systems are used to elect the devolved parliaments and assemblies in Scotland, Wales and London.
5. That support for proportional representation is official policy of the Green Party, the SNP and the Liberal Democrats; polling shows three quarters of Labour members want their party to campaign for it [6].

Full Council believes:

1. That a Parliament that more accurately reflects the views of the nation is more likely to develop an economic, social and environmental agenda that benefits Bristol’s residents;
2. That enabling people to feel that their votes count would increase voter engagement and participation;
3. That a robust democracy must include a fair voting system and that nobody should be disenfranchised because of where they live.

Therefore, Full Council:

1. Applauds the many groups and organisations campaigning for fair votes including the Electoral Reform Society, Make Votes Matter and the Labour Campaign for PR;
2. Calls for the introduction of a proportional voting system
 - a. for local elections in England and Wales;
 - b. for Westminster elections;
3. Requests for Bristol to be allowed to pilot the holding of local elections under a proportional system.

Full Council resolves to call on the Mayor to:

1. Publicly support proportional representation for local elections in Bristol and as the national electoral system;
2. Inform local MPs and the media of this decision and work with them in support of this campaign;
3. Forward a copy of this motion to the Leaders of all political parties represented in the UK Parliament, and to all Bristol MPs.



Motion to be moved by: Cllr Eleanor Combley (Green Councillor)

Notes:

[1] <http://aceproject.org/ero-en/topics/electoral-systems/Electoral%20Systems%20and%20the%20Protection%20and%20Participation%20of%20Minorities.pdf>

[2] <https://www.makevotesmatter.org.uk/equality>

[3] Birchfield, Vicki and Crepez, Markus (1998). “The Impact of Constitutional Structures and Collective and Competitive Veto Points on Income Inequality in Industrialized Democracies.” European Journal of Political Research 34: 175-200.

[4] Carey, John M. and Hix, Simon (2009). “The Electoral Sweet Spot: Low-magnitude Proportional Electoral Systems.” PSPE Working Paper 01-2009. Department of Government, London School of Economics and Political Science, London, UK

[5] <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/who-we-are-and-what-we-do/elections-and-referendums/past-elections-and-referendums/scotland-local-council-elections/report-how-2017-scottish-local-elections-were-run>

[6] <https://www.makevotesmatter.org.uk/newsroom-2/2019/12/16/poll-three-quarters-of-labour-members-want-proportional-representation>

* * * * *

11. Mitigating the effects of the Clean Air Plan on the most affected and most deprived residents.

Council notes that there is now the prospect of a way of achieving the required clean air standards in the period required that may not be in the form of restricted and charging zones.. Despite many reservations from scrutiny, cabinet has given its approval to a plan which may be modified in the light of changing conditions as a result of the pandemic.

Nevertheless the following considerations still apply to the present situation and need to be resolved in the process of achieving the final version.

Council regrets that no public consultation was carried out on the specific plan adopted by the Cabinet which was different to the two options put forward to the public and wants this to be remedied



Council has concerns about how this will impact on the way that goods and people move within and around any clean air zones, and anticipating and mitigating potential poor outcomes.

Council is concerned that the capability of the present system of ‘public’ transport to sustainably accommodate is inadequate, certainly in the short and medium-term.

Council is concerned about the effects of greater vehicle movements outside any zones to avoid restrictions on small roads not designed for this and the impact on safety, congestion, necessary infrastructure work and migrated poorer quality air.

Council is concerned that deprivation being given the highest rating alongside public health in the approach to the clean air problem – rather than confronting the central issue and mitigating any poor outcomes- there are no meaningful exemptions or concessions for people in the present central zone except a possible £2000 grant to enable replacement for a diesel car.

This council resolves to ask the Mayor to examine meaningful ways to ease the transition into any new plan for those people most affected and least capable of coping with the outcomes including, but not exclusively, the following:

- A longer transition period for phasing out ownership by residents in the present inner zone of all private diesel cars, focusing on pre-Euro6 models.
- Preparation and consultation on an impact analysis, and resulting mitigation, for the closure of the eastbound Cumberland Basin to all vehicles except buses.
- Alternative provisions for access to the many hospitals (including sufficient information and warnings) within the zone including the extension of the present hospital bus network to collect from car parks outside the zone.
- Examining how to provide additional funds where needed to top up the likely £2000 so-called scrappage scheme in order that this may deliver more sustainable and cleaner private cars held
- Developing transitional arrangements for alternative travel by bus
- Exempting disabled people from any zone restrictions
- Exempting Diesel vehicles that meet Euro6 standards from the diesel ban, to allay risk that these may be replaced by poorer quality older petrol vehicles, delivering worse outcomes.

Council instructs the Chief Executive to write a letter to Government with the resolution of Council.



Motion to be moved by: Cllr Anthony Negus (Lib Dem)

* * * * *

12. Introduce a ‘Low Carbon Advertising Policy’

This council notes:

- That Bristol City Council currently holds an Advertising Concession Agreement (ACA) with Clear Channel UK involving the upkeep and maintenance of over 300 bus stops across the city, many of which include digital advertising screens. This contract is due to come to an end soon and a new one will need to be re-tendered. [1]
- That advertising prohibitions and restrictions already exist regarding all tobacco products and e-cigarettes, guns and offensive weapons, breath testing and products designed to mask the effects of alcohol, ‘pyramid schemes’, prostitution services, ‘obscene material’ as well as other rules regarding marketing to children, high fat sugar and salt products, medical and health claims, religion, financial products, and pornography. [2]
- That a double-sided digital bus stop advertising screen uses four times the electricity of the average British home. [3]
- That Bristol City Council declared a Climate Emergency in November 2018, which included a commitment for Bristol to go carbon neutral by 2030.
- That Bristol’s One City Climate Strategy includes a plan to create ‘advertising standards and restrictions to support responsible consumption.’ [4]

This council believes:

- That the very purpose of advertising is to stimulate demand for goods and services.
- That some advertising content undermines the council's objectives regarding public health, air pollution and sustainable consumption. For example: High Fat Sugar and Salt (HFSS) products undermine health objectives, petrol and diesel car adverts (especially for Sports Utility Vehicles) undermine air quality objectives, and airline advertising undermines carbon emission targets.

This council resolves:

- To call on the Cabinet member for Transport to review the Advertising Concession Agreement immediately, to investigate the possibility of amending the set of prohibitions and restrictions to include products that contribute to climate change and air pollution, to take effect when the ACA is re-tendered.
- To call on the Cabinet member for Planning to implement a Low Carbon Advertising Policy as part of the council's planning policies, to apply to bus stops, billboards and advertising spaces in the city within the jurisdiction of the local planning area.
- To call on all Cabinet members to look into the possibility of an overarching Bristol City Council advertising policy that links the One City



Climate Strategy, Local Plan and public health objectives by setting targets, expectations or restrictions on all advertising in the city that interacts with the Council’s objectives on public health, air pollution, climate change and sustainable consumption.

Proposer: Councillor Carla Denyer

References:

1. <https://democracy.bristol.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?AllId=12821>
2. <https://www.badverts.org/case-studies>
3. <http://adblockbristol.org.uk/2019/11/the-electricity-cost-of-digital-advert>
4. <https://www.bristolonecity.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/one-city-climate-strategy.pdf>, page 46

Signed



Proper Officer
Thursday, 27 August 2020



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 <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/council-meetings>

Covid-19: changes to how we hold public meetings

Following changes to government rules, we will use video conferencing to hold all public meetings, including Cabinet, Full Council, regulatory meetings (where planning and licensing decisions are made) and scrutiny.

Councillors will take decisions remotely and the meetings will be broadcast live on YouTube.

Members of the public who wish to present their public forum in person during the video conference must register their interest by giving at least two clear working days' notice to Democratic Services of the request. To take part in the meeting, you will be required to register for a Zoom account, so that Democratic Services is able to match your named Zoom account to your public forum submission, and send you the password protected link and the instructions required to join the Zoom meeting to make your statement or ask your supplementary question(s).

As part of our security arrangements, please note that we will not permit access to the meeting if your Zoom credentials do not match your public forum submission credentials. This is in the interests of helping to ensure a safe meeting environment for all attending or observing proceedings via a live broadcast.

Please note: Members of the public may only be invited into the meeting for the duration of their submission and then be removed to permit the next public forum participant to speak.

Changes to Public Forum

Petitions, Statements and Questions must be about a matter the Council has responsibility for or which directly affects the city. For further information about procedure rules please refer to our Constitution <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/how-council-decisions-are-made/constitution>

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 democratic.services@bristol.gov.uk. The following requirements apply:

There is a limited amount of time available at the start of the meeting for the public forum section of the meeting, which is the point in the meeting where petitions and statements will be taken.

In chairing the part of the meeting dealing with statements, within the time constraints, the Lord Mayor will try to allow as many statements as possible to be presented (where individuals wish to do this), covering as many topics as possible. Inevitably though, depending on the number of statements received in total, there may not always be sufficient time available to enable everyone to present their statements.



Petitions from members of the public

- Petitions will be presented to the Council first.
- Petitions must include name, address and details for the wording of the petition.
- The person presenting a petition will be asked to read out the objectives of the petition with one minute allowed.
- A written reply will be provided to the lead petitioner within 10 working days of the Full Council meeting.

Statements

- Statements should be received no later than **12.00 noon on the working day before the meeting**.
- There can be one statement per person and subject to overall time constraints, a maximum of one minute is allocated for presentation.
- Any statement submitted should be no longer than one side of A4 paper.
- For copyright reasons, we are unable to reproduce or publish newspaper or magazine articles that may be attached to statements.

Questions

- Questions should be received no later than **three clear working days before the meeting**.
- A maximum of two written questions per person can be submitted.
- At the meeting, a maximum of one supplementary question may be asked, arising directly out of the original question or reply.
- **Your intention to attend the meeting to speak must be received no later than two clear working days in advance. The meeting agenda will clearly state the relevant public forum deadlines.**

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, published on the website and 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:

- There will be no debate on public forum statements or petitions.
- Public Forum will be circulated to the Committee members prior to the meeting and published on the website.
- If you have arranged with Democratic Services to attend the meeting to present your statement or ask a question(s), you should log into Zoom and use the meeting link provided which will admit you to the waiting room.
- The Chair will call each submission in turn and you will be invited into the meeting. 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, and you be muted if you exceed your allotted time.**

- If there are a large number of submissions on one matter, a representative may be requested to speak on the group's behalf.
- If you do not attend the meeting at which your public forum submission is being taken your statement will be noted by Members.

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

The privacy notice for Democratic Services can be viewed at www.bristol.gov.uk/about-our-website/privacy-and-processing-notice-for-resource-services

Webcasting/ Recording of meetings

Members of the public attending meetings or taking part in Public forum are advised that all virtual public meetings including Full Council and Cabinet meetings are now broadcast live via the council's [webcasting pages](#). The whole of the meeting will be broadcast (except where there are confidential or exempt items).

Other formats and languages and assistance for those with hearing impairment

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.



Bristol City Council Minutes of the Full Council

7 July 2020 at 6.00 pm



Members Present:-

Councillors: Mayor Marvin Rees, Peter Abraham, Donald Alexander, Lesley Alexander, Nicola Beech, Nicola Bowden-Jones, Mark Bradshaw, Mark Brain, Charlie Bolton, Tom Brook, Fabian Breckels, Tony Carey, Craig Cheney, Barry Clark, Jos Clark, Stephen Clarke, Harriet Clough, Eleanor Combley, Asher Craig, Chris Davies, Mike Davies, Carla Denyer, Kye Dudd, Richard Eddy, Martin Fodor, Helen Godwin, Paul Goggin, Geoff Gollop, John Goulandris, Fi Hance, Margaret Hickman, Claire Hiscott, Helen Holland, Gary Hopkins, Chris Jackson, Hibaq Jama, Carole Johnson, Steve Jones, Anna Keen, Tim Kent, Sultan Khan, Gill Kirk, Cleo Lake, Jeff Lovell, Brenda Massey, Olly Mead, Matt Melias, Graham Morris, Anthony Negus, Paula O'Rourke, Steve Pearce, Celia Phipps, Ruth Pickersgill, Kevin Quartley, Liz Radford, Tim Rippington, Jo Sergeant, Afzal Shah, Steve Smith, Paul Smith, Clive Stevens, Jerome Thomas, Mhairi Threlfall, Estella Tincknell, Jon Wellington, Mark Weston, Lucy Whittle, Chris Windows and Mark Wright

1. Welcome, Introductions and Safety Information

The Lord Mayor welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor English.

3. Declarations of Interest

None received.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

On the motion of the Lord Mayor, seconded by Councillor Kent, it was

RESOLVED:



That the minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on the 21st and 26th May 2020 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Lord Mayor.

5. Lord Mayor's Business

Former Councillor David Sutton

The Lord Mayor informed Full Council of the recent death of former Bristol City Councillor David Sutton. David Sutton was a Labour Councillor who served Ashley Ward and Eastville Ward in the 1990's. Tributes were paid and condolences sent to his family and friends.

Elisabeth Standen

The Lord Mayor informed Full Council of the recent passing of Elisabeth Standen, a former officer of Bristol City Council. Elisabeth was the Council's first Disability Equalities Officer in the late 1980's. Tributes were paid and condolences sent to family and friends.

Honorary Alderman Claire Warren

The Lord Mayor informed Full Council of the sad news that Honorary Alderman Claire Warren had also recently passed away. Alderman Warren had represented Bedminster Ward and also served as Lord Mayor 1994-1995. Tributes were paid and condolences sent to family and friends.

A minute's silence was observed.

HMS Prince of Wales

The Lord Mayor highlighted to Full Council that the City of Bristol was formally affiliated with HMS Prince of Wales. A video update prepared by colleagues at HMS Prince of Wales was shown.

6. Petitions Notified by Councillors

There were none.

7. Public Forum (Public Petitions, Statements and Questions)

Public petitions:

There were no public petitions received.

Public statements:

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

Ref No	Name	Title
PS01	Thomas Pearce	Councillor Comments



PS02	Ben Anthony	BS3 asthma Clean-Air-For-Life
PS03	Ollie Fortune	Merchant Venturers
PS04	Suzanne Audrey	Backbench and opposition members access to information
PS05	Tom Bosanquet	Totterdown side of Victoria Park traffic and road crossings
PS06	Colin Davis	Clean Air Zone
PS07	Andrew Varney	The Importance of ELT schools to the Bristol Economy
PS08	SWTN/ RFS	Transport
PS09	David Redgewell	Transport
PS10	Osei Johnson	Black Lives Matter
PS11	Esther Kelly-Levy	Education
PS12	FoSBR (Christina Biggs)	Covid/ development of the local rail network
PS13	Jendaye Selassie	Rastafari Cultural Centre in St Pauls
PS14	Martin Upchurch	Colston Statue
PS15	Pat Ross	Care of black disabled children in Bristol
PS16	Mary Page	Pay Gaps report, City of hope, and improving Inclusion

Within the time available, statements PS01, PS03, PS07, PS08, PS09, PS10, PS11, PS12 and PS13 were presented at the meeting.

Public Questions:

The Full Council noted that the following questions had been submitted:

Ref No	Name	Title
PQ01 & PQ02	Thomas Pearce	Understanding Bristol's past and Bristol History Commission
PQ03 & PQ04	Ollie Fortune	Merchant Venturers
PQ05 & PQ06	David Redgewell	Public Transport and WECA
PQ07	Jake Emsley	Rail Investment
PQ08	Jake Emsley	Van Dwellers
PQ09	Suzanne Audrey	Bristol Energy
PQ10	Suzanne Audrey	Publication of Reports and Public Forum
PQ11	Colin Davis	Bristol's Clean Air Zone
PQ12	Andrew Varney	ELT Schools
PQ13	Andrew Varney	Quality of Slurry Seal process

Within the time available, the Mayor responded verbally to questions PQ03 & PQ04, PQ05 & PQ06, PQ12 and PQ13 also responding to supplementary questions.



8. Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and Cumulative Impact Assessment Policy

The Full Council considered a report setting out the proposed Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and Cumulative Impact Assessment Policy for the five year period for 2020-2025.

Councillor Shah moved the report and the recommendations contained therein.

Councillor Pearce seconded the report.

Councillor Negus moved the following amendment:

- v. Council notes that members are dismayed at the disappearance of all the CIAs that have - for many years - provided the opportunity to protect the well-being of our local residents from public nuisance, and that members are very concerned that this loss will allow proliferation of noisy and unwelcome venues and the return of behaviours that it has taken some communities decades to get under control."
- vi. Council calls upon the Mayor to work with Licensing Officers to swiftly and successfully communicate to residents the urgency to assemble refreshed evidence and submit applications for new CIAs, especially in areas of clear licensing stress.

Councillor Clough seconded the amendment.

Following debate on the amendment, upon being put to the vote by way of a roll call, the amendment was LOST (31 members voting in favour, 34 Against, with 1 Abstention)

Upon the original recommendation being put to a vote it was:

RESOLVED:

That having consulted upon its proposed policy for the five year period from 2020-2025, and having had regard to the guidance issued by the Secretary of State under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, the Licensing Authority for Bristol resolves to:-

- (i) determine its statement of licensing policy with respect to the exercise of its licensing functions in respect of a period of five years beginning with 1 August 2020 annexed as Appendix 1,**
- (ii) direct that this policy be published on the Council's web pages before that date.**
- (iii) determine that it is not appropriate to publish a Cumulative Impact Assessment Policy at this time.**
- (iv) to approve a consultation on a draft Cumulative Impact Assessment Policy in respect of the city centre with a revised boundary which will exclude the Broadmead area, annexed as Appendix 2.**



9. Equality and Inclusion Annual Report 2019-2020

The Full Council considered the Equality and Inclusion Annual Report 2019-2020.

Councillor Asher Craig moved the report and the recommendations contained therein. Councillor Shah seconded the report.

Following debate, it was

RESOLVED:

That the Equality and Inclusion Annual Progress Report 2019-2020 be noted.

10 Motions

Motion 1 – City of Hope: Rebuilding a more inclusive Bristol

Councillor Pickersgill moved the following motion:

Full Council notes:

1. Coronavirus (covid-19) has seen 306,862 confirmed cases in the UK; 43,081 people nationally have died from covid-19, including some 262 people in the Bristol area, while the Financial Times estimates more than 65,700 excess deaths in total*; our thoughts are with their loved ones.
2. The accompanying economic impact is the worst since the Great Depression, and has seen 52,400 Bristolians furloughed, alongside significant job losses and financial hardship, increased foodbank usage, over £80 million support needed for Bristol businesses through the council, and a record national economic contraction of 20.4%.
3. Recessions and protracted economic crises always disproportionately affect those who are already vulnerable, living in poverty, and/or in insecure employment; something recognised in the campaigns to extend free school meals, support victims of domestic abuse and violence, house homeless people, including those with No Recourse to Public Funds, and provide additional help for asylum seekers.
4. This pandemic has disproportionately impacted on Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities, both in terms of numbers affected and proportion of deaths, but also the socio-economic impact; the pandemic has also disproportionately impacted on older people and disabled people, compounded by the Government's decision to discharge people with the virus back into care homes and initial national shortages of personal protective equipment.
5. In weeks, the Government's public position shifted from "provid[ing] whatever funding is needed for councils to get through this and come out of the other side" to not "want[ing] anybody to labour under a false impression that what they are doing will be guaranteed funded by central government"; as a result Bristol faces an £82 million gap, while all councils and communities, according to the LGA, "face an existential crisis."



6. The horrendous death of George Floyd, and protests following it, further highlighted systemic racism around the world; the removal of the statue of Edward Colston has presented an opportunity for institutions in the City to re-examine their history and their current anti-racist equality practices.

Full Council believes:

1. We want the Government to succeed in tackling the pandemic, but it has sadly fallen short in its management to date from preparedness to responsiveness, to an inability to work cohesively enough with local government or our NHS – thus presiding over the second highest deaths per million of any country.
2. The Mayor and administration have been right to call on Government to compensate Councils for both rising costs and falling revenues resulting from their efforts to lead the city through the pandemic.
3. Black Lives Matter. We have a duty to understand the real, whole story of Bristol, and what it means to different communities, and to tackle systemic racism in order to lead positive change and rebuild Bristol, but not in the image of the unequal city which existed before.
4. Rebuilding a City of Hope, where nobody is left behind, requires investment to ensure a relentless focus on dismantling all structural inequalities to ensure that everyone believes that our recovery will benefit them and that it does.

Full Council resolves:

1. To record our heartfelt thanks to all council staff and other key workers, especially those on the frontline, who have worked even harder than ever throughout the pandemic to keep us all safe and keep Bristol moving.
2. To make delivering the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) explicit outcomes for our work – with a commitment to equalities, anti-racism, and tackling poverty – to underpin rebuilding a better Bristol through inclusive and sustainable growth.
3. To lobby the Government to introduce the Real Living Wage and, until that time, work with employers in our respective wards to engage with the Mayor and Trade Unions' Living Wage City initiative.
4. To ask the Mayor to push the Combined Authority and Government to commit to the SDGs, with a real emphasis on tackling unemployment among young people, and preventing any rise in people who are not in education, employment, or training.
5. To ask the Mayor to review the Equality Impact Assessment process to ensure it further informs decision-making, and to add deprivation/class to the 2010 Equality Act protected characteristics; in addition, auditing race equality across council departments and requiring specific anti-racist actions in their Equality Plans with targets for continued positive change in employment and service delivery.
6. To work to ensure that the recommendations of the Marmot Review into health inequalities are woven into the approach of the Council, the One City Plan, and all recovery planning.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Cheney

Councillor Hopkins then moved the following amendment:



‘That the motion be amended to read as follows:

Full Council notes:

1. Coronavirus (covid-19) has seen 306,862 confirmed cases in the UK; 43,081 people nationally have died from covid-19, including some 262 people in the Bristol area, while the Financial Times estimates more than 65,700 excess deaths in total*; our thoughts are with their loved ones.
2. The accompanying economic impact is the worst since the Great Depression, and has seen 52,400 Bristolians furloughed, alongside significant job losses and financial hardship, increased foodbank usage, over £80 million support needed for Bristol businesses through the council, and a record national economic contraction of 20.4%.
3. Recessions and protracted economic crises always disproportionately affect those who are already vulnerable, living in poverty, and/or in insecure employment; something recognised in the campaigns to extend free school meals, support victims of domestic abuse and violence, house homeless people, including those with No Recourse to Public Funds, and provide additional help for asylum seekers.
4. This pandemic has disproportionately impacted on Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities, both in terms of numbers affected and proportion of deaths, but also the socio-economic impact; the pandemic has also disproportionately impacted on older people and disabled people, compounded by the Government’s decision to discharge people with the virus back into care homes and initial national shortages of personal protective equipment.
5. In weeks, the Government’s public position shifted from “providing] whatever funding is needed for councils to get through this and come out of the other side” to not “want[ing] anybody to labour under a false impression that what they are doing will be guaranteed funded by central government”; as a result Bristol faces an £82 million gap, while all councils and communities, according to the LGA, “face an existential crisis.”
6. The horrendous death of George Floyd, and protests following it, further highlighted systemic racism around the world as well as the appalling brutality of American policing; the overdue removal of the statue of Edward Colston has presented an opportunity for institutions and communities in the City to re-examine their history and their current anti-racist equality practices.
7. It is of concern that illegal air quality is once again a blight on the people of Bristol. Poor air quality shortens lives and affects the health of many of the most deprived communities of the city, as documented in the Marmot review.**

Full Council believes:

1. We want the Government to succeed in tackling the pandemic, but it has sadly fallen short in its management to date from preparedness to responsiveness, to an inability to work cohesively enough with local government or our NHS – thus presiding over the second highest deaths per million of any country.
2. The Mayor, administration and other councillors have been right to call on Government to compensate Councils for both rising costs and falling revenues resulting from their efforts to lead the city through the pandemic. No final settlement has been agreed and the council should continue to work with the LGA to push for a better deal from government.



3. Black Lives Matter. We have a duty to understand the real, whole story of Bristol, and what it means to different communities, and to tackle systemic racism in order to lead positive change and rebuild Bristol, but not in the image of the unequal city which existed before.
4. Rebuilding a City of Hope, where nobody is left behind, requires investment to ensure a relentless focus on dismantling all structural inequalities to ensure that everyone believes that our recovery will benefit them and that it does.
5. There needs to be a concrete plan to tackle illegal air quality supported by government which can be implemented as a matter of urgency.

Full Council resolves:

1. To record our heartfelt thanks to all council staff and other key workers, especially those on the frontline, who have worked even harder than ever throughout the pandemic to keep us all safe and keep Bristol moving.
2. To make delivering the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) explicit outcomes for our work – with a commitment to equalities, anti-racism, and tackling poverty – to underpin rebuilding a better Bristol through inclusive and sustainable growth.
Looking at the following two SDG's - Goal 10 (reduce inequalities), Goal 11 (supporting the marginalised and disadvantaged) - tangible actions that we can commit to now in relation to these goals and following on from Black Lives Matter would be to :
 - Ensure that the one Bristol curriculum is known and implemented across all schools in Bristol including academies and fee paying independent schools
 - Ensure investment goes into Black led institutions of the city either directly through the council or by brokering relationships with institutions in the city through the one city office or if agreed by the centres the Merchant Venturers. Such black led institutions must include the Malcolm X Centre, the Kuumba Centre, the Docklands Settlement and the Rastafari Cultural Centre.
3. To lobby the Government to introduce the Real Living Wage and, until that time, work with employers in our respective wards to engage with the Mayor and Trade Unions' Living Wage City initiative.
4. To ask the Mayor to push the Combined Authority and Government to commit to the SDGs, with a real emphasis on tackling unemployment among young people, and preventing any rise in people who are not in education, employment, or training.
5. To ask the Mayor to review the Equality Impact Assessment process to ensure it further informs decision-making, and to add deprivation/class to the 2010 Equality Act protected characteristics; in addition, auditing race equality across council departments and requiring specific anti-racist actions in their Equality Plans with targets for continued positive change in employment and service delivery.
6. To work to ensure that the recommendations of the Marmot Review into health inequalities are woven into the approach of the Council, the One City Plan, and all recovery planning.
7. Noting that in particular the recovery and response to the threat of climate change, air pollution and unemployment require urgent action, to take concerted action in partnership with other authorities and industry on energy efficiency and renewable production and investment, in development of and increasing use of new non-polluting technologies.
8. To make sure that a clean air zone that achieves legal air quality as a minimum by 2022 is prioritised to ensure the most deprived communities in the city are protected from illegal air pollution.



The amendment was seconded by Councillor Lake.

Following debate, upon being put to the vote, the amendment was LOST (17 voting for, 35 against, with 14 absentions)

The Lord Mayor then invited Councillor Pickersgill, as mover of the original motion to speak.

During the debate it was moved by the Lord Mayor that standing order CPR2.1(2) be suspended to allow the meeting to go past the 2 hours 30 minutes time limit. Following a vote it was agreed to proceed for an extra 15 minutes.

Following final remarks, upon being put to the vote, the original motion was CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED:

Full Council notes:

- 1. Coronavirus (covid-19) has seen 306,862 confirmed cases in the UK; 43,081 people nationally have died from covid-19, including some 262 people in the Bristol area, while the Financial Times estimates more than 65,700 excess deaths in total*; our thoughts are with their loved ones.**
- 2. The accompanying economic impact is the worst since the Great Depression, and has seen 52,400 Bristolians furloughed, alongside significant job losses and financial hardship, increased foodbank usage, over £80 million support needed for Bristol businesses through the council, and a record national economic contraction of 20.4%.**
- 3. Recessions and protracted economic crises always disproportionately affect those who are already vulnerable, living in poverty, and/or in insecure employment; something recognised in the campaigns to extend free school meals, support victims of domestic abuse and violence, house homeless people, including those with No Recourse to Public Funds, and provide additional help for asylum seekers.**
- 4. This pandemic has disproportionately impacted on Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities, both in terms of numbers affected and proportion of deaths, but also the socio-economic impact; the pandemic has also disproportionately impacted on older people and disabled people, compounded by the Government's decision to discharge people with the virus back into care homes and initial national shortages of personal protective equipment.**
- 5. In weeks, the Government's public position shifted from "provid[ing] whatever funding is needed for councils to get through this and come out of the other side" to not "want[ing] anybody to labour under a false impression that what they are doing will be guaranteed funded by central government"; as a result Bristol faces an £82 million gap, while all councils and communities, according to the LGA, "face an existential crisis."**
- 6. The horrendous death of George Floyd, and protests following it, further highlighted systemic racism around the world; the removal of the statue of Edward Colston has presented an**



opportunity for institutions in the City to re-examine their history and their current anti-racist equality practices.

Full Council believes:

- 1. We want the Government to succeed in tackling the pandemic, but it has sadly fallen short in its management to date from preparedness to responsiveness, to an inability to work cohesively enough with local government or our NHS – thus presiding over the second highest deaths per million of any country.**
- 2. The Mayor and administration have been right to call on Government to compensate Councils for both rising costs and falling revenues resulting from their efforts to lead the city through the pandemic.**
- 3. Black Lives Matter. We have a duty to understand the real, whole story of Bristol, and what it means to different communities, and to tackle systemic racism in order to lead positive change and rebuild Bristol, but not in the image of the unequal city which existed before.**
- 4. Rebuilding a City of Hope, where nobody is left behind, requires investment to ensure a relentless focus on dismantling all structural inequalities to ensure that everyone believes that our recovery will benefit them and that it does.**

Full Council resolves:

- 1. To record our heartfelt thanks to all council staff and other key workers, especially those on the frontline, who have worked even harder than ever throughout the pandemic to keep us all safe and keep Bristol moving.**
- 2. To make delivering the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) explicit outcomes for our work – with a commitment to equalities, anti-racism, and tackling poverty – to underpin rebuilding a better Bristol through inclusive and sustainable growth.**
- 3. To lobby the Government to introduce the Real Living Wage and, until that time, work with employers in our respective wards to engage with the Mayor and Trade Unions' Living Wage City initiative.**
- 4. To ask the Mayor to push the Combined Authority and Government to commit to the SDGs, with a real emphasis on tackling unemployment among young people, and preventing any rise in people who are not in education, employment, or training.**
- 5. To ask the Mayor to review the Equality Impact Assessment process to ensure it further informs decision-making, and to add deprivation/class to the 2010 Equality Act protected characteristics; in addition, auditing race equality across council departments and requiring specific anti-racist actions in their Equality Plans with targets for continued positive change in employment and service delivery.**
- 6. To work to ensure that the recommendations of the Marmot Review into health inequalities are woven into the approach of the Council, the One City Plan, and all recovery planning.**



Meeting ended at 8.50 pm

CHAIR _____



Amendment to the report - Council's Statement of Licensing Policy and Cumulative Impact Assessment Policy (Amendment)	
Marvin Rees	Against
Councillor Peter Abraham	For
Councillor Donald Alexander	Against
Councillor Lesley Alexander	For
Councillor Nicola Beech	Against
Councillor Nicola Bowden-Jones	Against
Councillor Mark Bradshaw	Against
Councillor Mark Brain	No vote recorded
Councillor Charlie Bolton	For
Councillor Tom Brook	Against
Councillor Fabian Breckels	Against
Councillor Tony Carey	For
Councillor Craig Cheney	Against
Councillor Barry Clark	Against
Councillor Jos Clark	No vote recorded
Councillor Stephen Clarke	For
Councillor Harriet Clough	For
Councillor Eleanor Combley	For
Councillor Asher Craig	Against
Councillor Christopher Davies	For
Councillor Mike Davies	Against
Councillor Carla Denyer	For
Councillor Kye Dudd	Against
Councillor Richard Eddy	For
Councillor Martin Fodor	For
Councillor Helen Godwin	Against
Councillor Paul Goggin	Against
Councillor Geoff Gollop	For
Councillor John Goulandris	For
Councillor Fi Hance	For
Councillor Margaret Hickman	Against
Councillor Claire Hiscott	For
Councillor Helen Holland	Against
Councillor Gary Hopkins	For
Councillor Christopher Jackson	Against
Councillor Hibaq Jama	Against
Councillor Carole Johnson	Against
Councillor Steve Jones	For
Councillor Anna Keen	Against



Councillor Tim Kent	For
Councillor Sultan Khan	For
Councillor Gill Kirk	Against
Councillor Cleo Lake	Abstain
Councillor Jeff Lovell	Against
Councillor Brenda Massey	Against
Councillor Olly Mead	No vote recorded
Councillor Matthew Melias	For
Councillor Graham Morris	For
Councillor Anthony Negus	For
Councillor Paula O'Rourke	For
Councillor Steve Pearce	Against
Councillor Celia Phipps	Against
Councillor Ruth Pickersgill	Against
Councillor Kevin Quartley	For
Councillor Liz Radford	For
Councillor Tim Rippington	Against
Councillor Jo Sergeant	Against
Councillor Afzal Shah	Against
Councillor Steve Smith	For
Councillor Paul Smith	Against
Councillor Clive Stevens	For
Councillor Jerome Thomas	For
Councillor Mhairi Threlfall	Against
Councillor Estella Tincknell	Against
Councillor Jon Wellington	Against
Councillor Mark Weston	For
Councillor Lucy Whittle	Against
Councillor Chris Windows	For
Councillor Mark Wright	For
Rejected	



Golden Motion : Lib Dem and Green Amendment (Amendment)	
Marvin Rees	Against
Councillor Peter Abraham	Abstain
Councillor Donald Alexander	Against
Councillor Lesley Alexander	Abstain
Councillor Nicola Beech	Against
Councillor Nicola Bowden-Jones	Against
Councillor Mark Bradshaw	Against
Councillor Charlie Bolton	For
Councillor Tom Brook	Against
Councillor Fabian Breckels	Against
Councillor Tony Carey	For
Councillor Craig Cheney	Against
Councillor Barry Clark	Against
Councillor Jos Clark	No vote recorded
Councillor Stephen Clarke	For
Councillor Harriet Clough	For
Councillor Eleanor Combley	For
Councillor Asher Craig	Against
Councillor Christopher Davies	For
Councillor Mike Davies	Against
Councillor Carla Denyer	For
Councillor Kye Dudd	Against
Councillor Richard Eddy	Abstain
Councillor Martin Fodor	For
Councillor Helen Godwin	Against
Councillor Paul Goggin	Against
Councillor Geoff Gollop	Abstain
Councillor John Goulandris	Abstain
Councillor Fi Hance	For
Councillor Margaret Hickman	Against
Councillor Claire Hiscott	Abstain
Councillor Helen Holland	Against
Councillor Gary Hopkins	For
Councillor Christopher Jackson	Against
Councillor Hibaq Jama	Against
Councillor Carole Johnson	Against
Councillor Steve Jones	Abstain
Councillor Anna Keen	Against
Councillor Tim Kent	For
Councillor Sultan Khan	For



Councillor Gill Kirk	Against
Councillor Cleo Lake	For
Councillor Jeff Lovell	Against
Councillor Brenda Massey	Against
Councillor Olly Mead	Against
Councillor Matthew Melias	Abstain
Councillor Graham Morris	Abstain
Councillor Anthony Negus	For
Councillor Paula O'Rourke	For
Councillor Steve Pearce	Against
Councillor Celia Phipps	Against
Councillor Ruth Pickersgill	Against
Councillor Kevin Quartley	Abstain
Councillor Liz Radford	Abstain
Councillor Tim Rippington	Against
Councillor Jo Sergeant	Against
Councillor Afzal Shah	Against
Councillor Steve Smith	Abstain
Councillor Paul Smith	Against
Councillor Clive Stevens	For
Councillor Jerome Thomas	For
Councillor Mhairi Threlfall	Against
Councillor Estella Tincknell	Against
Councillor Jon Wellington	Against
Councillor Mark Weston	Abstain
Councillor Lucy Whittle	Against
Councillor Chris Windows	Abstain
Councillor Mark Wright	No vote recorded
Rejected	



Full Council

8th September 2020



Report of: Tim O’Gara, Director Legal and Democratic Services

Title: Petition Debate- Save the Jubilee Pool

Recommendation

That Full Council debates the petition and refers it to the Mayor / relevant Cabinet member for a formal response.

Summary

Under the Council’s petitions scheme, where a petition has 3,500 or more signatures from people who live, work or study in Bristol, the petition organiser can request a Full Council debate.

The Council has received a petition in relation to the petition ‘Save Jubilee Pool’.

The petition organisers have requested that Full Council debates the petition.



Details of the petition

1. The wording of the petition is as follows:

Petition title / subject: **Save Jubilee Pool**

Petition wording:

We the undersigned call upon the Mayor of Bristol to listen to the demands of local people and keep Jubilee Pool open.

Pre Covid the pool was operating at a profit and without subsidy but more importantly it is vital for local health and wellbeing. The Covid threat to operating is real but can be managed at a modest cost and will last only until a vaccine is found. Best scientific opinion says that is likely to be in the first half of next year. It would be criminal negligence to let a vital community resource slip away because the council has a short term finance problem.

We note with sadness the failure of the council to maintain and recognise that a small capital investment is needed to protect it for the next 20 years and would support a local not for profit Trust taking over if the council is incapable to organise themselves.

2. The petition has been organised by the **Friends of Jubilee Pool** (Jules Laming)
3. The petition has secured **4400** signatures as of 26th August 2020.
4. The Full Council is asked to debate the petition.
5. Under the petition scheme, the petition organiser is permitted up to 5 minutes to present and speak to the petition. The petition scheme allows a further period of up to 15 minutes for discussion of the petition by councillors at the Full Council meeting.
6. The Full Council has agreed the following in relation to dealing with petitions with over 3500 signatures: The topic of the debate should be referred to the Mayor/Cabinet, or other relevant body with the petitioner's views and Full Council's views.

RECOMMENDATION

Following the debate, the Full Council is recommended to refer the petition to the Mayor, in order that the Mayor can consider his response, in liaison with the relevant Cabinet member.

Full Council

8th September 2020



Report of: Chair of the Audit Committee

Title: Audit Committee Annual Report 2019/20

Ward: City Wide

Member Presenting Report: Councillor Brain, Chair of Audit Committee

Recommendation

The Council notes the report of the Audit Committee and the Committee's concerns that internal control arrangements at the Council are not yet as robust as they should be. The Committee will continue to monitor and support improvement required during 2020/21.

Summary

The Committee's Terms of Reference include a requirement to provide full Council with an Annual Report summarising its conclusions from the work it has undertaken during the year. The report is provided at Appendix A.

The significant issues in the report are:

- a) The work of the Committee and conclusions drawn (sections 4 and 7 of Appendix A)
- b) Key priorities for enhancing the Committee's effectiveness and contribution to improvement of the control framework going forward (section 6 of Appendix A)

Policy

1. The Audit Committee's terms of reference are determined by Full Council. The City Council has a duty to ensure adequate and effective risk management, internal control and governance arrangements and the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of its activities. The Audit Committee has a key role in assessing the extent to which this responsibility is being met and advising the Council on the adequacy and effectiveness of these arrangements.

Consultation

2. **Internal**
Audit Committee Members including independent members
Internal Audit
3. **External**
Not Applicable

Context

4. The Audit Committee was established by the City Council at its meeting on 16th May 2006. Whilst there is no statutory obligation to have such a Committee, they are widely recognised as a core component of effective governance.

Proposal

5. Full Council note the report of the Audit Committee and the Committee's concerns that internal control arrangements are not yet consistently as robust as they should be. The Committee will continue to monitor and support improvements required during 2020/21.

Other Options Considered

6. Not Applicable

Risk Assessment

7. The work of the Audit Committee mitigates against any failure by the Council to obtain independent assurance in relation to the governance processes underpinning :
 - an effective risk management framework and internal control environment
 - the effectiveness of financial and non-financial performance (to the extent it affects exposure to risk and poor internal control)
 - the Annual Governance Statement, and
 - the review and approval of the annual statement of accounts.

Summary of Equalities Impact of the Proposed Decision

No equality impact is anticipated from this report. The report provides details of the Audit Committee's work and their conclusions in respect of control and governance processes.

Legal and Resource Implications

Legal – N/A

Financial – N/A

Land – N/A

Personnel – N/A

Appendices:

Appendix A – Audit Committee Annual Report 2019/20

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers:

Audit Committee papers throughout 2019/20.



BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL

AUDIT COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20

1. Introduction:

- 1.1 It is important that the Council has an independent and effective Audit Committee that follows best practice. The Audit Committee is the primary means by which Full Council obtains assurance that governance, risk management and control systems are in place and effective. It ensures that these are regularly reviewed and reflect regularity and propriety. The Audit Committee's responsibilities are additional to and supportive of those of the Section 151 Officer.

2. Terms of Reference:

- 2.1 The Committee's approved Terms of Reference for 2019/20, which are detailed on the Bristol City Council website ([Terms of Reference](#)), can be summarised as providing independent assurance to the Council in relation to the:
- Effectiveness of the Council's governance arrangements, risk management framework and internal control environment;
 - Overseeing of the work of Internal and External Audit, while at the same time enhancing the profile, status and authority of the Internal Audit function and its independence;
 - Effectiveness of the Council's financial and non-financial performance to the extent it affects exposure to risk and poor internal control;
 - Reviewing and approving the Annual Statement of Accounts and the Annual Governance Statement and monitoring the Council's compliance with its Code of Corporate Governance.
- 2.2 The Committee should operate in an 'apolitical' environment. On considering the appropriateness of its own terms of reference, the Committee this year resolved to recommend to Full Council that Political Party Leads should not sit on the Audit Committee and that the Committee's terms of reference should include this requirement going forward.

3. Membership and Meetings of the Committee:

- 3.1 The Committee was chaired during 2019/20 by Councillor Mark Brain. The Committee comprised of nine members - the Chair and Councillors Clive Stevens (Vice Chair), Liz Radford, Olly Mead, Christopher Jackson, Harriet Clough and Nicola Bowden Jones, with independent members, Adebola Adebayo and Simon Cookson.
- 3.2 The Committee met formally on six occasions during 2019/20. All meetings were quorate. The meeting on 16 March 2020 was affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19). Whilst the meeting occurred, many members were unable to attend (marked with * in the table below) and only papers for decision were considered. Queries in relation to all other papers were considered off-line via email to officers.

Table 1- Audit Committee Attendance 2019/20:

Member	No. of Meetings Held	No. of Meetings Attended	% of Meetings Attended (sub)
Mark Brain (Chair)	6	5	83%*
Clive Stevens – Vice Chair	6	6	100%
Olly Mead	6	6	100%
Liz Radford	6	5	83% (67%)
Nicola Bowden-Jones	6	1	17%
Harriet Clough	6	5	85%*
Christopher Jackson	6	6	100%
Adebola Adebayo	6	5	83%*
Simon Cookson	6	5	83%*

- 3.3 In addition to the Committee Members, the Section 151 Officer, Chief Internal Auditor, Deputy Chief Internal Auditor, Monitoring Officer, representatives from the External Auditors (Grant Thornton) and other officers, as appropriate, attended Committee meetings.
- 3.4 A total of fifty one reports were considered during the year, the details of which are provided in Appendix 1. Additionally, at each meeting, the Committee's work programme was reviewed for continued relevance and progress against actions required by the Committee was monitored.
- 3.5 In addition, the Value and Ethics Committee (a subcommittee of the Audit Committee) has met twice to consider an update on Member Development, Working with outside bodies and Honorary Alderman nomination. This subcommittee is chaired by one of the independent members, Adebola Adebayo.

4. The Work and Activity of the Audit Committee in 2019/20:

- 4.1 The specific objectives of the Committee relate to overseeing the following arrangements. Papers received by the Committee to enable them to provide that oversight are recorded below:

Area	Papers Considered to Enable Oversight
Internal Control Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal Audit Activity Reports. These were provided throughout the year and included a summary of assurance opinions and executive summaries of audit reports with limited assurance opinions. Internal Audit Annual Report, including annual opinion. Local Government Ombudsman Report BCC Wholly owned Companies Audit & Assurance Arrangements
Corporate Risk Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk Management Arrangements and Policy Quarterly Corporate Risk Reports; Reports on a specific Corporate Risks. Asbestos Management, Infrastructure, Flood Risk Management IT Transformation Programme
Regulatory Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Governance Statement Annual Governance Statement Action Tracker. Constitution Updates (various) Annual Review of the Effectiveness of the System of Internal Audit External Inspection Reports Audit Committee Half Year Report
Internal Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal Audit Charter and Strategy. Internal Audit Plan 2019/20. Amendments to the Plan. Internal Audit Activity and Performance Reports.. Internal Audit Quality Assurance and Improvement Programme.
External Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External Audit Planning and Update Reports
Financial Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Statement of Accounts –for 2018/19 External Audit ISA 260 Report.
Treasury Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treasury Management Annual Report and Half Year Update Report
Members Conduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member Officer Protocol Member Code of Conduct Members Code of Conduct for Development Control Committees Members Code of Conduct for Licensing Committee and Public Safety and Protection Committee
Anti-Fraud Arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal Audit – Counter- fraud reports and Internal Audit Activity Reports. Whistleblowing Arrangements

- 4.2 For the first time this year, the Committee introduced an in year report to Full Council of issues identified from its work during the first half of the year. The aim was to provide Council with early sight of emerging issues.

Key Messages from the work of the Committee:

Internal Control Environment:

- 4.3 The Committee received an Annual Report from Internal Audit at the start of the municipal year in line with best practice in the CIPFA Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS). This concluded that, based on the work carried out by Internal Audit, only limited assurance could be provided that the Council's internal control environment was effective. This was the third consecutive year of 'limited assurance' being reported by Internal Audit and as such was included as a significant governance issue in the Annual Governance Statement for 2018/19.
- 4.4 The Committee has monitored this situation via regular reports from Internal Audit. Officers responsible for areas where limited assurance was concluded during the year were requested to attend Committee to provide further assurance on the progress being made in implementing the agreed management actions and whether there were improvements resulting from actions being taken. Examples include reports regarding:
- procurement and contracting practices
 - the IT Transformation Programme governance.
- 4.5 In addition, the Committee was pleased to learn that the new Chief Internal Auditor (appointed July 2019), in agreement with senior management has implemented a number of new approaches that should support enhanced engagement of managers across the organisation to improve the control environment. In addition to revising the assurance opinions to align them to annual reporting, Internal Audit has been working with senior management to resolve and close outstanding improvement actions. In February 2020, 76% of actions outstanding from 2017/18 and 2018/19 had been closed with management prioritising the remainder. The Internal Audit team has also implemented a new management system that should enhance the effective follow up, monitoring and reporting of agreed management actions.
- 4.6 In noting the Chief Internal Auditor's annual opinion, the Committee will continue to support Internal Audit in its work to ensure control weaknesses are effectively dealt with and the current momentum in improving the Council's internal control, governance and risk management is sustained.

Risk Management:

- 4.7 The Committee has received a report from the Council's Risk and Insurance Manager detailing the progress being made to embed risk management at the Council. The Risk and Assurance Policy was received and reviewed by the Committee and the quarterly corporate risk reports are now routinely examined by the Committee. In addition, the Committee selects a sample of the corporate risks for a more detailed review to gain assurance that adequate arrangements are in place to manage the risks. In 2019/20, risks selected were in relation to Infrastructure, asbestos management and flood risk. Relevant officers provided reports and attended Committee meetings to respond to questions about the effectiveness of risk mitigations.

- 4.8 The Committee has also received a number of assurance reports from Internal Audit regarding the risks relevant to the IT Transformation Programme management and invited the Programme Senior Responsible Officer to Committee to assure them that actions are in place to address the matters identified.
- 4.9 From this work, the Committee has been able to gain assurance that risk management arrangements continue to develop and embed at the Council. The Committee will continue to support improvements required to risk management by challenging arrangements and risk areas where they feel risk is not being adequately managed.

Regulatory Framework:

- 4.10 The Annual Governance Statement is a key consideration for the Committee each year. It outlines the governance arrangements at the Council and aims to conclude on how effectively those arrangements have been operating. The Committee considers the Annual Governance statement to ensure it is reflective of the arrangements and identifies any significant governance issues. The Committee is assured by the review process and has approved the 2018/19 Annual Governance Statement as a fair reflection of the Council's governance arrangements.
- 4.11 The Statement for 2018/19 identified that a number of key governance systems were not operating soundly and the Committee have monitored progress in these areas.

Internal Audit Arrangements:

- 4.12 The Internal Audit Team is a key and independent source of assurance for the Audit Committee and the Council. During 2018/19 and 2019/20, the team have implemented an improvement plan to ensure they are well positioned to deliver a work programme focussed on the Council's key risks. The team have experienced a number of vacancies both during and after a restructure but have reviewed work programmes to ensure they remain in a position to provide appropriate assurance. The Audit Committee is therefore monitoring via update reports at each meeting, that the team is resourced to be fit for purpose in providing assurance to management and the Committee. The review of internal audit effectiveness by the Council's Section 151 Officer gave the Committee assurance that the Internal Audit Service is operating as expected.

External Audit and Sign off of Financial Statements for 2018/19:

- 4.13 The Committee is required by its terms of reference to consider the External Auditor's report in advance of its signing off the Council's Financial Statements within the required statutory deadlines.
- 4.14 The audit of the Council's financial statements was delayed and as such the statements were signed off outside of the expected timescales. It is understood that many Councils were in a similar situation following new audit arrangements. In Bristol, the delay was also due to handover issues from the council's previous auditors, the complexity of the Council's operations and then post balance sheet events concerning decisions made by Cabinet regarding Bristol Energy Company and the Covid-19 pandemic. The accounts were however finally signed in July 2020 following the Committees review in June 2020.

Counter Fraud Arrangements and Whistleblowing:

- 4.15 The Committee received regular updates on the counter-fraud work undertaken by Internal Audit and noted the continued good results concerning proactive fraud identification work.

4.16 Whilst the Committee is assured that the Council's counter fraud and corruption arrangements are fundamentally sound, there is an ongoing concern regarding the effectiveness of whistleblowing arrangements. The Committee has received assurance from management that arrangements are being reviewed to address this and new arrangements will be effective from 1st April 2020 with responsibility transferring to internal audit. The Committees work programme will include in year monitoring of these arrangement via Internal Audit reports as well as an annual independent review of the effectiveness of arrangements moving forward.

Summary:

4.17 In summary, the Committee has met its terms of reference in this municipal year. The Committee's primary contribution to the Council's objectives is to ensure that Governance, Control, Risk Management and Audit systems which underpin the work of the Council are sound, reliable, robust and secure. This report provides sight of areas where that is not the case. All matters in this report will be monitored by the Committee into 2020/21.

5. Training and Develop Activity to Support the Committee.

5.1 A key requirement of an effective Audit Committee is a well-informed membership who has substantial experience of the key areas to be considered by the Committee. Training received by the Committee during 2019/20 focussed on key complex financial matters as follows:

- Statement of Accounts – Officer and External Auditor perspectives
- Treasury Management

5.2 A workshop to enable the Committee to review its effectiveness against the good practice checklist was cancelled due to Covid-19 but will be planned for 2020/21.

5.3 Members development needs going forward have been identified as follows and development activity will be programmed to ensure Members receive this going forward:

- Local Authority Governance
- Audit Committee Role and Effectiveness
- Risk Management
- Statement of Accounts
- Treasury Management
- Partnership Governance

6. Priorities for 2020/21

6.1 Looking forward, the Committee will strive to enhance the assurances it can provide by:

- Understanding the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic on the Council and assuring the Council's response to that. New and significant risks to the Council as it moves into recovery phase will need to be effectively managed and the Committee will focus on arrangements to do so.
- Ensuring the committee has potential access to all papers without restriction to enable it

to operate effectively. Audit Committee is a key part of the Council's governance arrangements and must have access to papers equal to that of other members of the Council. The Committee should have access equal to that of scrutiny and cabinet.

- Developing a programme of training and development designed to ensure the Committee is well placed to independently challenge and assure the Council's risk management, governance and internal control arrangements on behalf of the Council and management.
- Regularly reviewing its work programme and managing its meeting agenda to maximise the focus on key assurance requirements
- Supporting and reviewing progress being made to address the areas of concern identified by Internal and External Reports
- Developing the Committee's role in reviewing governance arrangements where the Council works in partnerships.

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1 The Committee's primary contribution to the Council's objectives is to ensure that Governance, Control, Risk Management and Audit systems which underpin the work of the Council are sound, reliable, robust and secure.
- 7.2 This review gives an overview of the range of work undertaken by the Committee, which has enabled it to conclude that the Council's system of checks and balances are not consistently as robust as required and further improvements are planned going forward. The Committee will monitor progress going forward.
- 7.3 I would like to thank my fellow Committee members and Officers for their support in enabling the Committee to achieve its objectives in 2019/20.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Reports considered by the Audit Committee in 2019/20

Details of Reports Considered by Audit Committee during 2019/20 Municipal Year

Meeting Date	Papers Considered
28 th May 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External Audit Update Report • Internal Audit Annual Report 2018/19 • Annual Counter Fraud Report 2018/19 • Draft Annual Governance Statement 2018/19 • Draft Statement of Accounts 2018/19
29 th July 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External Audit Update Report • Annual Governance Statement Action Tracker • Final Annual Governance Statement 2018/19 • Updated Statement of Accounts • Internal Audit Activity Report – Q1 • Corporate Risk Management Arrangement/Policy • Corporate Risk Report • Audit and Assurance Arrangements for Council Owned Companies • Constitution Updates
30 September 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member Officer Protocol • Review of Constitutional Updates • Annual Report of the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman • External Audit Update • Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement • Treasury Management Annual Report 2018/19 • Internal Audit Activity Report to End August 2019 • Corporate Risk Report – Q1 2019/20 • Detailed review of Corporate Risk – Asbestos Management • Internal Audit Report - IT Transformation Programme
November 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External Audit Update Report • Policy and budget framework procedures • Constitution - administrative changes • Changes to procurement regulations • Key decision definitions. • Detailed Review of Corporate Risk – Infrastructure • Internal Audit Half Year Update Report • Counter Fraud – Half Year Update Report and Counter Fraud Policy Review • Internal Audit – Quality Assurance and Improvement Programme • Internal Audit Charter and Strategy

Meeting Date	Papers Considered
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasury Management Half Yearly Report • IT Transformation Programme (Exempt)
20 th January 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member Code of Conduct • External Audit ISA 260 Report • 2018/19 Statement of Accounts • Whistleblowing Arrangements Update • Annual Review of the effectiveness of the system of Internal Audit • Corporate Risk Management Arrangement and the Q3 Corporate Risk Report • Internal Audit Summary – IT Transformation Programme (Exempt)
16 th March 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood Risk Management • Review of External Inspections of Council Services 2019/20 • External Audit Update Report • Draft Internal Audit Plan 2020/21 • Internal Audit Activity Report • Members Code of Conduct for Development Control Committees • Members Code of Conduct for Licensing Committee and Public Safety and Protection Committee • Bristol Energy Company and Statement of Accounts – Verbal Update (exempt)