

Bristol City Council

Minutes of the Full Council

25 November 2020 at 6.00 pm



Members Present:-

Councillors: Mayor Marvin Rees, Peter Abraham, Donald Alexander, Lesley Alexander, Nicola Beech, 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, 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, Clive Stevens, Jerome Thomas, Mhairi Threlfall, Estella Tincknell, Jon Wellington, Mark Weston, Lucy Whittle, Chris Windows and Mark Wright

Officers in Attendance:-

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Lord Mayor welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bowden-Jones, English and Khan.

3. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Clive Stevens declared the disclosable pecuniary interest that he had written a book of his experiences in local government. He did not intend to withdraw.

4. Public Forum (Petitions, Statements and Questions)

There were no public petitions submitted to the meeting.



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
PS01	Cllr Huw James
PS02	Tim Warren CBE
PS03	David Redgewell
PS04	Cllr Claire Young
PS05	Lucy Travis, Somerset Catch the Bus Campaign
PS06	Dick Daniel, Bath Area Trams Association
PS07	Martin Garrett, Transport for Greater Bristol
PS08	Stephen Williams
PS09	Tony Lloyd, FOSBR
PS10	Dave Andrews

PS01, PS02, PS03 and PS04 were presented at the meeting.

Public questions:

The Full Council noted that the following questions had been submitted by members of the public and members of Council.

Ref No	Name
PQ01 & PQ02	Suzanne Audrey
CQ01 & CQ02	Councillor Paula O'Rourke
CQ03	Councillor Clive Stevens
CQ04 & CQ05	Councillor Martin Fodor
CQ06	Councillor Margaret Hickman

Within the time available, the Mayor responded verbally to all the questions submitted also responding to supplementary questions.

5. Motion Submitted : WECA Membership

Councillor Hopkins moved the following motion:

Council believes joint working is important as a council and that the West of England Combined Authority offers a body through which Government will engage and invest in our region and allow the local authorities to work together better and more effectively.

Council believes the decision of North Somerset to not join previously weakened the body and its ability to attract additional funds and powers. We welcome the application by North Somerset to join WECA.

Council believes together we will be a stronger region able to access additional funding and that the sum and parts will jointly benefit.



Council calls on the Mayor and Chief Executive to publish the statutory consultation on North Somerset joining WECA as required within the joint arrangement and ask for this consultation to be published no later than 27th November.

Additionally Council calls on the Bristol Mayor to reverse his opposition to the expansion of WECA, noting that if he considers inadequate any negotiated additional funding associated with a proposed expansion of WECA, then he still has the authority to exercise his veto at a later date.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Steve Smith.

Councillor Threlfall moved the following amendment:

That the motion be amended to read as follows:

Council believes joint working is important and that the West of England Combined Authority offers a body through which Government can engage and invest in our region and enables the local authorities to work together better and more effectively across the wider Greater Bristol economic area.

Council believes the decision of North Somerset to not join previously weakened the body and its ability to attract additional funds and powers. We welcome application by North Somerset to join WECA which could strengthen WECA and the regional economy removing the existing complicated 3+1 governance.

Council notes that all constituent authorities support – in principle – the expansion of WECA to include North Somerset. Council believes together we will be a stronger region able to access additional funding and that the sum and parts will jointly benefit. Council notes that Mayor Rees has stated that a challenge to this progress is due to a lack of financial detail from Westminster on a new devolution deal and clear governance arrangements.

Council calls on the Mayor and Chief Executive to meet urgently with other WECA authority leaders to agree a financial settlement, review the methodology for distributing WECA funds and a clear governance arrangement and publish the statutory consultation on North Somerset joining WECA

Additionally Council calls on the Bristol Mayor to reiterate his support for the expansion of WECA.

The amendment was seconded by Councillor Hickman.

Following debate, upon being put to the vote, the amendment was CARRIED (42 voting for, 21 against, with 1 abstentions)

Following debate on the motion on the table (as amended), the Lord Mayor then invited Councillor Hopkins to speak, as mover of the original motion.

Following final remarks, upon being put to the vote, the amended motion was CARRIED (42 voting for, 3 against, with 17 abstentions) and it was

RESOLVED:



Council believes joint working is important and that the West of England Combined Authority offers a body through which Government can engage and invest in our region and enables the local authorities to work together better and more effectively across the wider Greater Bristol economic area.

Council believes the decision of North Somerset to not join previously weakened the body and its ability to attract additional funds and powers. We welcome application by North Somerset to join WECA which could strengthen WECA and the regional economy removing the existing complicated 3+1 governance.

Council notes that all constituent authorities support – in principle – the expansion of WECA to include North Somerset. Council believes together we will be a stronger region able to access additional funding and that the sum and parts will jointly benefit. Council notes that Mayor Rees has stated that a challenge to this progress is due to a lack of financial detail from Westminster on a new devolution deal and clear governance arrangements.

Council calls on the Mayor and Chief Executive to meet urgently with other WECA authority leaders to agree a financial settlement, review the methodology for distributing WECA funds and a clear governance arrangement and publish the statutory consultation on North Somerset joining WECA

Additionally Council calls on the Bristol Mayor to reiterate his support for the expansion of WECA.

Amendment to the motion (Amendment)

Marvin Rees	For
Councillor Peter Abraham	Against
Councillor Donald Alexander	For
Councillor Lesley Alexander	Against
Councillor Nicola Beech	For
Councillor Mark Bradshaw	No vote recorded
Councillor Mark Brain	For
Councillor Charlie Bolton	For
Councillor Tom Brook	For
Councillor Fabian Breckels	For
Councillor Tony Carey	Against
Councillor Craig Cheney	For
Councillor Barry Clark	For
Councillor Jos Clark	No vote recorded
Councillor Stephen Clarke	Abstain
Councillor Harriet Clough	Against
Councillor Eleanor Combley	For
Councillor Asher Craig	For
Councillor Christopher Davies	Against
Councillor Mike Davies	For
Councillor Carla Denyer	For
Councillor Kye Dudd	For
Councillor Richard Eddy	Against
Councillor Martin Fodor	For
Councillor Helen Godwin	For



Councillor Paul Goggin	For
Councillor Geoff Gollop	Against
Councillor John Goulandris	Against
Councillor Fi Hance	For
Councillor Margaret Hickman	For
Councillor Claire Hiscott	Against
Councillor Helen Holland	For
Councillor Gary Hopkins	Against
Councillor Christopher Jackson	For
Councillor Hibaq Jama	For
Councillor Carole Johnson	For
Councillor Steve Jones	Against
Councillor Anna Keen	For
Councillor Tim Kent	Against
Councillor Gill Kirk	For
Councillor Cleo Lake	For
Councillor Jeff Lovell	For
Councillor Brenda Massey	For
Councillor Olly Mead	For
Councillor Matthew Melias	Against
Councillor Graham Morris	Against
Councillor Anthony Negus	Against
Councillor Paula O'Rourke	For
Councillor Steve Pearce	For
Councillor Celia Phipps	For
Councillor Ruth Pickersgill	For
Councillor Kevin Quartley	Against
Councillor Liz Radford	Against
Councillor Tim Rippington	For
Councillor Jo Sergeant	For
Councillor Afzal Shah	For
Councillor Steve Smith	Against
Councillor Clive Stevens	For
Councillor Jerome Thomas	For
Councillor Mhairi Threlfall	For
Councillor Estella Tincknell	For
Councillor Jon Wellington	For
Councillor Mark Weston	Against
Councillor Lucy Whittle	For
Councillor Chris Windows	Against
Councillor Mark Wright	Against
Carried	



Vote on the substantive motion (as amended) (Motion)	
Marvin Rees	For
Councillor Peter Abraham	Abstain
Councillor Donald Alexander	For
Councillor Lesley Alexander	Abstain
Councillor Nicola Beech	For
Councillor Mark Bradshaw	For
Councillor Mark Brain	For
Councillor Charlie Bolton	For
Councillor Tom Brook	No vote recorded
Councillor Fabian Breckels	For
Councillor Tony Carey	Against
Councillor Craig Cheney	For
Councillor Barry Clark	For
Councillor Jos Clark	No vote recorded
Councillor Stephen Clarke	No vote recorded
Councillor Harriet Clough	Abstain
Councillor Eleanor Combley	For
Councillor Asher Craig	For
Councillor Christopher Davies	Abstain
Councillor Mike Davies	For
Councillor Carla Denyer	For
Councillor Kye Dudd	For
Councillor Richard Eddy	Abstain
Councillor Martin Fodor	For
Councillor Helen Godwin	For
Councillor Paul Goggin	For
Councillor Geoff Gollop	Abstain
Councillor John Goulandris	Abstain
Councillor Fi Hance	For
Councillor Margaret Hickman	For
Councillor Claire Hiscott	Abstain
Councillor Helen Holland	For
Councillor Gary Hopkins	Abstain
Councillor Christopher Jackson	For
Councillor Hibaq Jama	For
Councillor Carole Johnson	For
Councillor Steve Jones	Abstain
Councillor Anna Keen	For
Councillor Tim Kent	No vote recorded
Councillor Gill Kirk	For
Councillor Cleo Lake	For



Councillor Jeff Lovell	For
Councillor Brenda Massey	For
Councillor Olly Mead	For
Councillor Matthew Melias	Abstain
Councillor Graham Morris	Abstain
Councillor Anthony Negus	Against
Councillor Paula O'Rourke	For
Councillor Steve Pearce	For
Councillor Celia Phipps	For
Councillor Ruth Pickersgill	For
Councillor Kevin Quartley	Abstain
Councillor Liz Radford	Abstain
Councillor Tim Rippington	For
Councillor Jo Sergeant	For
Councillor Afzal Shah	For
Councillor Steve Smith	Abstain
Councillor Clive Stevens	For
Councillor Jerome Thomas	For
Councillor Mhairi Threlfall	For
Councillor Estella Tincknell	For
Councillor Jon Wellington	For
Councillor Mark Weston	Abstain
Councillor Lucy Whittle	For
Councillor Chris Windows	Against
Councillor Mark Wright	Abstain
Carried	

Meeting ended at 8.10 pm

CHAIR _____

