

Committee Model Review Group

28 November 2024



Report of: Director, Legal and Democratic Services

Title: Annual Business Report

Ward: N/A

Officer Presenting Report: Lucy Fleming, Head of Democratic Engagement

Recommendations:

- a. To note the membership of the Board for 2024/25
- b. To note the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee
- c. To note the Terms of Reference as set out in Appendix A
- d. To approve the upcoming schedule of Public Meetings for 2024/25
- e. To approve the draft Work Programme as set out in appendix B

The Significant Issues in the Report

As set out in the report.



1. Policy

N/A

2. Consultation

N/A

3. Context

In May 2022, Bristol voted in a referendum to move from a mayoral model to a committee model of governance. This took effect from 5 May 2024.

At the May 2022 meeting of Full Council, councillors agreed to set up a cross-party working group to develop the committee model. This was called the Committee Model Working Group (CMWG), and they met publicly once a month from January 2023 to December 2023, reporting to Full Council regularly with their findings.

The CMWG was responsible for developing the structure of the new model. This includes:

1. reviewing the functions of all council committees
2. making any changes to ways of working
3. undertaking a range of engagement activities with the public

During the planning stages of the Committee System, it was agreed that following implementation, a review group would be set up in Autumn 2024 to review findings and recommend any constitutional changes to Full Council in March 2025.

4. Proposal

The Committee Model Review Group is asked to:

a. Note the membership for 2024/2025

The Board comprises of 7 Members (Green 3; Labour 2; Liberal Democrat 1; Conservative 1) as follows:

1. Councillor Guy Poultney (Chair)
2. Councillor Richard Eddy (Vice-Chair)
3. Councillor Andrew Brown
4. Councillor Heather Mack
5. Councillor Kaz Self
6. Councillor Kye Dudd
7. Councillor Rob Bryher

b. To note the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee

1. Councillor Guy Poultney (Chair)
2. Councillor Richard Eddy (Vice-Chair)

c. To note the Terms of Reference

The Review Group will be responsible for reviewing the new arrangements to assess the effectiveness of decision making and make recommendations as appropriate. In particular, this may include:

- Leadership, functions, roles and structure of Committees
- Policy development and Task Groups
- Report writing e.g. options papers
- Briefings and agenda setting procedures
- Public participation
- Local decision making
- Budget setting processes
- Delegations to officers

Please see appendix A for the full Terms of Reference agreed at October 2024 Full Council.

d. To approve the upcoming schedule of public meetings for 2024

There will be 5 public meetings of the Board during 2024/25 – dates and times are proposed as follows:

Thursday 28th November 2024, 10:00-12:00

Thursday 19th December 2024, 10:00-12:00

Thursday 30th January 2025, 10:00-12:00

Thursday 27th February 2025, 10:00-12:00

Thursday 13th March 2025, 10:00-12:00

e. To approve the draft Work Programme as set out in appendix B

The draft Work Programme can be found in Appendix B.

6. Other Options Considered

N/A

7. Risk Assessment

N/A

8. Public Sector Equality Duties

N/A

9. Legal and Resource Implications

N/A

Appendices:

Appendix A	Terms of Reference
Appendix B	Draft Work Programme

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers: None.