

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board 30th January 2020



Report of: Andrea Dell/Edward Rowberry, Head of One City Office

Title: One City January 2020 Update

Ward: Citywide

Officer (s) Presenting Report: Andrea Dell and Edward Rowberry

Recommendation

This is an update report as part of the Overview and Scrutiny work programme for 2019–20. Members to note the report.

The significant issues in the report are:

For members to note the update requested on the One City initiative. This update includes:

- * Details of the progress made in 2019 under the One City initiative
- * An update on the 2020 One City Plan and the 2020 priorities
- * The work programme and resourcing arrangements for the City Office

A presentation has been requested by Overview and Scrutiny members for the meeting. This will expand upon this report using images and video material. This will be circulated in advance to members.



1. Summary

The One City initiative was first established in July 2016 with the formation of the City Office, designed to be a hub that brought together city partners to work together on city challenges. The rationale for the initiative was to:

- Provide a framework for city partners and city leaders from different sectors and organisations to come together regularly to share information and consider city challenges and opportunities in a holistic manner
- To try and bring together capacity to solve city challenges as a collective

Feedback from city partners was that there was a desire to create a meeting framework that brought people together regularly and also to create a shared vision through which strategies from different organisations and institutions could be aligned. This evolved into the One City Plan and the One City governance structure that were launched in January 2019.

This report provides further details on some of the key elements of One City in response to requests from overview and scrutiny members.

2. Context

2.1 [The One City Plan 2020](#)

This is a working document that is refreshed every year. In January 2020 the second iteration was published, the first refresh of the document. The plan sets out an overarching vision for the city by 2050 underpinned by six themes, each of which has a timeline of activity setting out goals every year up until 2050. The goals are an attempt to sequence activity recognizing that issues such as carbon neutrality need to have activity occurring every year in order to achieve the end result of a carbon neutral city by 2030. Each year three of the goals are selected as priority projects and given additional support by the City Office.

Page 2 of the plan provides a succinct summary of what the plan is and is not which is a useful to understand the plan. It should be noted the plan is not a city council plan but a plan developed, delivered and refreshed by city partners.

The 2020 iteration of the plan contains the following new content from the 2019 version:

- Refreshed timelines; this has been particularly important with the environment timeline in order to bring all carbon neutral targets forward for 2030 (noting this is for the city, the city council has a target of 2025)
- A cycle of refresh that sets out how the City Office will approach refreshing the next iteration
- A section from the youth council and youth ambassadors from Babbassa setting out their vision for their future
- A section on the importance of culture to a city
- An update from each board on their reflections on 2019 and their priorities for 2020 and beyond

The plan can be downloaded from the One City website [here](#)

2.2 The One City Structure

The One City Plan provides an outline of the structure for One City which includes six thematic boards; a multi-board session where the chairs from each of the board meet informally once a quarter; an informal city leaders breakfast where representatives from different sectors and institutions in the city meet quarterly to talk about challenges/opportunities in the city; a city gathering that brings together a wide group of city partners twice a year to hear about city initiatives.

Overview and Scrutiny members have requested a summary of the arrangements for each of the boards and this is set out below. All information on the boards is available on the one city website [here](#). The title of each board listed below also contains a hyperlink that takes you to the relevant page on the website. Please note that only two of the boards have been established under the One City initiative; the other four were pre-existing and have agreed to become part of the One City structure.

- [Homes and Communities Board](#) – committee formed under previous administration – run as a democratic committee of the council with public forum, agenda and minutes available on the council’s website - has delegated decision making authority as set out in the council’s constitution but this is rarely exercised - chaired by Cllr Paul Smith, clerked by Democratic Services.
- [Health and Wellbeing Board](#) – statutory committee formed under 2012 in line with legislation – run as a democratic committee of the council with public forum, agenda and minutes available on the council’s website - has delegated decision making authority as set out in the council’s constitution but this is rarely exercised – co-chaired by Alison Bolam (CCG) and Cllr Helen Holland, clerked by Democratic Services. Membership by health partners is determined by legislation.
- [Learning City Partnership](#) - committee formed under previous administration – agenda and minutes available on the Learning City Partnership website - has delegated decision making authority as set out in the council’s constitution but this is rarely exercised - chaired by Cllr Anna Keen, clerked by Democratic Services. The Partnership wishes to review their arrangements for potential observers and transparency at their next meeting but must have due regard for the location of the meetings which move around school locations.
- [Environment Board](#) – formed in 2019 with the first meeting in July 2019 – meetings are open to the public with agenda and minutes available on the One City website - the board has no delegated decision making authority – co-chaired by Ann Cousins (Arup) and Mayor Marvin Rees, secretariat by Bristol Green Capital Partnership.
- [Economy Board](#) – formed in 2019 with the first meeting in September 2019 – has had two meetings and has agreed that meetings will be open to the public with agenda and minutes available on the One City website – the board has no delegated decision making authority – co-chaired by James Durie (Business West) and Cllr Craig Cheney, secretariat by Economic Development team and Business West.

- [Transport Board](#) – formed in 2018 as an evolution of the Mayor’s congestion task group – the board wishes to invite an observer from Scrutiny to attend meetings and for agendas and minutes to be available on the One City website - board has no delegated decision making authority – co chaired by Melanie Watson (Transport Focus) and Cllr Kye Dudd secretariat by First.
- All membership details and terms of reference are available online. Where boards are hosted on the council’s website there is a link from the One City website.

2.3 The City Office

The City Office acts as the enabling hub for the One City initiative. Its role includes helping to coordinate the production of the One City Plan, providing cross cutting strategy support to the One City structure, delivering the city gatherings, bringing together stakeholders and enabling the delivery of the one city goals and priority projects.

Overview and scrutiny members have requested details of the staffing costs to Bristol City Council of the City Office. These are set out below.

- Prior to May 2019 the City Office operated on a secondment basis with individuals being seconded in from different organisations across the city. The City Office had no budget at this time and any costs (for events, materials etc.) were met from the Mayor’s discretionary budget
- In February 2019 Full Council approved a one-year budget of £190k for the City Office and a £95k budget for the following three years (2020-2023). This budget funds a small core team and includes a small operating budget for production of materials like the One City Plan (printing and design costs) and the website.
- Recruitment for the City Office core team began in May 2019 and included:
 - 1 FTE - Head of City Office (currently job-shared one postholder starting in May and one in July)
 - 2x FTE – Operations and Stakeholder Managers (one postholder starting in June and one in July)
- In addition there is a 0.6x FTE SDG City Coordinator. This post is filled with a secondee from the University of Bristol and is funded in part by Bristol City Council, the British Council and the University of Bristol.
- All posts are on a secondment basis and were filled using a competitive recruitment process. All secondments run until July 17th 2020 at this time. Funding from this is to be met in part by the £95k for 2020-21 and discussions are underway with city partners about future support and funding arrangements.
- Periodically the City Office does require additional resources for the production of the One City Plan and the City Gatherings. These are met via the following:
 - One City Plan, website and dashboard – Bristol Design. This is an in-house service which is recharged on hourly basis. The costs for this are met from the City Office operating budget
 - City Gatherings – Admin and Business Support (ABS) colleagues, as part of the ABS service offered to all council teams, provide support to events on the day and carry out such activities as managing reception

- Development opportunities – at each gathering staff from within Policy, Strategy and Partnerships and the Mayor’s Office are approached to support the event on the day (managing the ICT, providing support to attendees) as part of a development opportunity.

Please note that Bristol City Council now issues City Office lanyards to a wide range of individuals or organisations who require regular access to City Hall but who are not BCC staff, councillors or one-off visitors. This includes for example Bristol Waste, Bristol Energy and the Housing Festival. The majority of these are not working in the City Office but the lanyards indicate they are City Partners.

2.4 Reporting on 2019

The City Office has produced an annual report that can be found [here](#)

This report sets out progress against each of the 2019 goals in the one city plan as well as other achievements and learning over the course of the year.

A selection of achievements for 2019 include:

- Launch of the first One City Plan and production and launch of the second One City Plan
- Prize winner for European Capital of Innovation
- Bristol City Council shortlisted for Local Government Chronicle Awards - One City part of the bid submissions
- Formation of the Economy Board, Environment Sustainability Board, Bristol Advisory Committee on Climate Change and the wider leadership network
- Best practice – requests and/or visits from Peterborough, Pittsburgh, Birmingham City Council, Los Angeles, ICELI, EUROCities, Seoul Metropolitan Government, City of Dublin, Bonn, HMG Cabinet Office, DfID, The British Council and The Local Government Association amongst others
- Motion approved by all local authorities at the LGA conference for further support for council’s to deliver the UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Production, in partnership with the Cabot Institute, of the second only SDG Voluntary Local Review in Europe and the only UK review and production of a toolkit for other cities to develop their own reviews. Bristol has been cited as global leader in this area. Only UK city to be part of HMG delegation to the UN
- Through the City Gatherings successful campaigns for fostering in Bristol resulting in a number of large businesses and institutions changing their policies to become fostering friendly and two week media campaign.
- Launch of the Period Friendly Bristol charity and the creation of a distribution network for donations of sanitary products in the city with an online app and associated educational programme
- Production of the a online dashboard facility to enable greater access to the One City Plan
- Delivery of three City Gatherings (including January 2020)

A video of the dashboard and Period Friendly Bristol will be shown at the overview and scrutiny meeting.

2.5 Work Programme for 2020

Each theme within the One City Plan has three goals every year (18 in total) and each year three of the goals are selected as priority projects and given additional support by the City Office. The Boards were asked to select one of their goals and present this at the City Gathering to be voted for. This year the following were chosen; two by the gathering and one by the city's youth council and the youth ambassadors from Babassa.

CONNECTIVITY - CHOSEN BY YOUTH GROUPS Funding measures are explored to secure investment to develop mass transit systems, including underground and over-ground, and increased support for public transport, cycling and walking options, improving the movement of people across the city

ENVIRONMENT – VOTED FOR AT CITY GATHERING Ensure Bristol is accredited as a gold standard in the Sustainable Food City awards and establish a legacy programme

HOMES AND COMMUNITIES – VOTED FOR AT CITY GATHERING Build on and deliver city-wide interventions to tackle homelessness with a focus on reducing the number of families in temporary accommodation

The wider City Office work programme for 2020 is currently in development however it is broadly to include the following key areas:

- a) Support to ensure delivery of the 'top three' projects and the 2020 goals; developing SMART target for each goal and subsequent resourcing;
- b) One City Plan Refresh cycle; widening participation (e.g. Women's Commission / Safeguarding Board/Community Development); strengthening sequencing and evidence base
- c) City Engagement Programme (as part of the above)
- d) Development of a set of City Values reporting back initial proposals in July
- e) Governance management –ongoing support and development of city leaders breakfasts, multi-board, and City Office drop-ins, with a specific goal on increasing diversity and transparency
- f) Securing additional funding and continuing to develop the operating model for City Office
- g) Providing support to production and delivery of the One City Climate Strategy and One City Inclusive Growth Strategy

Appendices:

All relevant documents are available online and hyperlinks have been included through-out the document.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers:

None