

Member Forum

14 January 2020

Statements from Councillors



The following statements have been submitted – full details are attached:

	Name	Title
CS01	Councillor Lesley Alexander	Vassall Court/ Oldbury Court
CS02	Councillor Clive Stevens	IRP Supplementary Recommendations
CS03	Councillor Stephen Clarke	Coronavirus in Bristol

CS01

Members' Forum statement from Councillor Lesley Alexander

Subject – Vassall Court/ Oldbury Court

I wish to ask Marvin not to start charge for this car park. The cost of doing so would not be worth it when all the issues surrounding the proposal are taken into consideration

The Council states that older people should use our parks for health and social reasons. We have heard the point that they should walk. Older people cannot walk long distances and to expect them to walk from say the Fishponds, where parking is at a premium along polluted roads is going to make them tired and unable to use the peace and clean air of the park when they get there. This park is designated a destination park. They also use the cafe to meet their friends which is important for social engagement. Finally on this point is the cost, elderly people who use the park five days a week which most of them do can not afford to do if they have to pay a charge. Neither can vulnerable families as this is one of the recreations they have been able to access which has not cost them money.

Who is going to police the parking on yellow lines which will happen if there is a charge and people will also park across Drive entrances and anywhere else where they see a Small space how matter how it may cause problems for the residents and in many cases be dangerous. Someone presumably Council officers are going to spend a lot of time sorting this out or they should do so.

We have not seen a business plan for this project so please can you supply one.

All together this plan is unnecessary to the taxpayers of Bristol who are paying twice for this facility.



CS02

Members' Forum statement from Councillor Clive Stevens Subject – IRP Supplementary Recommendations

Regarding payment for Task and Finish Group Chairs and Inquiry Day Chairs.

It says (consolidated page references)

1) Page 55: Recommendation 3 point 2. That a new SRA of £2000 for Chairs of the Task and Finish Groups or Inquiry Days be awarded upon submission of the relevant report of recommendations to Cabinet, from May 2020 onwards.

AND

2) Page 58: At 15: It concluded that a sum of £2,000 should be awarded once the report of outcomes from the Task Group or Inquiry Day had been reported to Cabinet.

I am concerned that this needs better definition. It is clear that Task and Finish T&F Groups and Inquiry Days are very valuable and quite a lot of work especially for the chairpersons. But I have some questions for you to consider please, after the vote now I would imagine. For example:

-If someone chairs a T&F Group they get £2,000, if they also chair an Inquiry Day do they get a further £2,000?

-When I chaired Budget T&F I held 6 meetings and reported to Cabinet twice, would I get £4,000?

-The SEND Inquiry Day was excellent and I hear the work was shared across four chairpersons. Would they get £500 each?

- And finally who scrutinised these supplementary recommendations?

CS03

Members' Forum statement from Councillor Stephen Clarke Subject – Coronavirus in Bristol

It is likely that in the very near future people in Bristol (especially the elderly) will be asked to stay physically-distanced because of the possible spread of the virus; in other words to stay at home in their communities. This self-isolation will mean that many people will potentially be isolated from their wider support networks, if they have them at all.

It also seems likely that, based on what is happening in Italy, there will be a very large influx of sick people who will need varying degrees of care. If they need intensive care they will go to hospitals and presumably various other places that have been set up a make-shift hospitals. This is for the NHS & Government to organise. However, if people have the virus, but have been asked to stay at home and self-isolate, this will be a challenge for the community. How does a single mother of two children, shop and self-isolate? What about the support needed for elderly people?

I am concerned that due to severe cuts from austerity, local communities have been left vulnerable and lacking in resilience. For example, the neighbourhood partnerships no longer function and in some areas of Bristol there may be no suitable local organisational structure to help organise the protection of vulnerable groups at the hyper-local scale.



I have seen the email from Jacqui Jensen which refers to ‘city leaders’ being briefed. Surely local councillors with their intimate knowledge of their wards and extensive networks should be included in that definition?

This is an crisis; perhaps the greatest challenge in a generation. Can the Mayor please tell us what contingency plans have been made to support communities with the resources they will need and how these resources will be distributed?

Will the Mayor please convene an emergency meeting with local groups and councillors so that we can together plan a way forward?

