

## **Extraordinary Council Meeting – 26<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

### **QUESTION PQ09 & PQ10**

**Subject: Bristol Energy**

#### **Submitted by Merche Clark**

My understanding is that Bristol Energy was established to encourage the production of clean energy and supply this clean energy to the citizens of Bristol. It appears that these two aims are no longer at the forefront of the project.

Since the inception of the idea and when Bristol Energy started trading in 2016, the energy market changed significantly. Bristol Energy, now, is merely another energy retailer in a packed and competitive marketplace. Bristol Energy is a small player and does not have any proprietary skills that might give it a competitive advantage to succeed on this basis. Even large players only average a 3% profit margin.

In fact on its site it states

- “We offer fairly priced 100% green electricity and green gas for homes and businesses in Bristol, the South West and nationwide.”
- “Bristol Energy will make a meaningful difference to the energy sector. We’ll give everyone access to fair, transparent tariffs and great customer care.”

So nothing to do with producing green energy and nothing to do with a Bristol focus.

And we can see that most of its customers are from outside the Bristol area.

**Whilst Bristol Energy offers attractive tariffs on consumer switching sites, what evidence is there that by attracting low tariff paying customers, Bristol Energy can produce profits and service its debts?**

**What evidence has Bristol Energy supplied to Bristol City Council over the last 5 years that supports a vision for profitability justified by its performance?**