

Audit Committee

30th July 2020



Report of: Penny Fell, Director: Commercialisation and Citizens

Title: Audit and Assurance of Council trading companies 2019/2020

Ward: N/A

Officer Presenting Report: Penny Fell, Director: Commercialisation and Citizens &
Chris Holme, Bristol Holding Ltd, Finance Director

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Recommendation and Summary

The accompanying paper is the Annual Report from the Bristol Holding Ltd. Group Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) to the Shareholder and the Council's Audit Committee.

This report provides a summary of the audit and assurance of the companies within the group for 2019/2020 , these include: Bristol Holding Ltd. (BHL), Bristol Energy Ltd. (BE), Bristol Waste Company Ltd (BWC) and Goram Homes Ltd. (GHL)

Policy

None affected by this report.

Consultation

Internal: Executive Members and Senior Management

External

None

1. Background and Context

- 1.1 Bristol Waste, Bristol Energy and a parent company Bristol Holding Ltd. were established via a detailed business case which resulted in the Cabinet decision in summer 2015.
- 1.2 Goram Homes was established following a detailed business case, and cabinet decision in September 2018, and moved into the Bristol Holding Ltd Group in May 2019
- 1.3 The process of governing the companies is principally with the Mayor, or his delegate, the Cabinet Member for Finance, Governance and Performance making “reserved matter” decisions as the Shareholder representative. A Shareholder Group meets quarterly to provide advice to the Shareholder Representative in relation to company matters.
- 1.4 Each company has a board of Directors, which is made up of Non-Executive Directors, with industry expertise, Executive Officers who manage day to day operations within the companies and a Councillor Representative appointed the Councils Executive, as ultimate Shareholder.
- 1.5 Bristol Holding Ltd. is the parent company and direct Shareholder of the companies within the group, and is responsible for the oversight of the subsidiary boards on behalf of the Shareholder. This includes the performance management of the companies in delivering against the objectives set out in their approved business plans, including the delivery of social and financial returns.
- 1.6 The Bristol Holding Ltd. board was re-freshed with these duties, in its current form in September 2019, under the leadership of an Executive Chair. The board has formed an Audit and Risk committee for the group, which consolidates the functions previously undertaken by the separate Bristol Energy, and Bristol Waste Audit and Risk Committees.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Bristol City Council’s Audit Committee receive the submission of the Bristol Holding Group Audit and Risk Committee Report.

Other Options Considered

Not applicable

Risk Assessment

Not applicable

Legal and Resource Implications**Legal**

None arising from this report

Land

None arising from this report

Personnel

None arising from this report

Appendices:

- Appendix A – Bristol Holding Group Audit and Risk Committee Report
- Appendix B – Bristol Holding Group Audit and Risk Committee TOR
- Appendix C - Bristol Holding Group Risk Management Strategy and Framework

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**Background Papers:**

- *Annual Audit and Assurance for Council trading companies 2018_2019, Report to Audit Committee 29th July 2019*

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers:

1. Companies Audit and Assurance arrangements,
Audit Committee, Monday, 21st January 2019, 2.00 pm

<https://democracy.bristol.gov.uk/documents/s28771/11%20Audit%20and%20Assurance%20arrangements%20for%20Council%20trading%20companies%2011012019.pdf>