

Bristol City Council

Minutes of the Full Council

8 December 2020 at 2.00 pm



Members Present:-

Councillors: Mayor Marvin Rees, Donald Alexander, Lesley Alexander, Nicola Beech, Nicola Bowden-Jones, Mark Brain, Tom Brook, Fabian Breckels, Tony Carey, Craig Cheney, Barry Clark, Jos Clark, Stephen Clarke, Harriet Clough, Eleanor Combley, Asher Craig, Chris Davies, Mike Davies, Carla Denyer, Kye Dudd, Richard Eddy, Martin Fodor, Helen Godwin, Paul Goggin, Geoff Gollop, John Goulandris, Fi Hance, Margaret Hickman, Claire Hiscott, Helen Holland, Gary Hopkins, Chris Jackson, Hibaq Jama, Carole Johnson, Anna Keen, Tim Kent, Sultan Khan, Gill Kirk, Cleo Lake, Jeff Lovell, Brenda Massey, Olly Mead, Graham Morris, Anthony Negus, Paula O'Rourke, Steve Pearce, Celia Phipps, Ruth Pickersgill, Kevin Quartley, Liz Radford, Tim Rippington, Jo Sergeant, Afzal Shah, Steve Smith, Clive Stevens, Jerome Thomas, Mhairi Threlfall, Estella Tincknell, Jon Wellington, Mark Weston, Lucy Whittle, Chris Windows and Mark Wright

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Lord Mayor welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bolton, Bradshaw, English, Jones and Melias.

3. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Brain declared an interest in item 13, the golden motion.

Councillors Breckels, Gollop, Stevens and Thomas declared interests in item 13, the silver motion.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

With reference to the minutes of the 25th November it was noted that there was an error in the text. The minutes have been corrected to state that Councillor Hickman seconded the amendment, not the motion.



On the motion of the Lord Mayor, seconded by Councillor Kent, and subject to that alteration it was

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on the 10th and 25th November 2020 be confirmed as correct record and signed by the Lord Mayor.

5. Lord Mayor's Business

A minutes silence was observed as a mark of respect for those who sadly lost their lives in the incident at Avonmouth on the 3rd December.

6. Public Forum (Public Petitions, Statements and Questions)

Public petitions:

There were two public petitions received which were referred to the Mayor for his consideration and response.

Ref No	Name	Title
PP01	Ramesh Pitla	Changes to CAF for Secondary School Admissions in September, 2021, 83 signatures
PP02	Martin Cordey	Say No to the Mow! Let Nature thrive, reduce cutting of verges and grass in open spaces, 2511 signatures

PP02 was presented by Councillor Carla Denyer on behalf of the organiser.

Public statements:

The Full Council received and noted the following statements (which were also referred to the Mayor for his consideration/information):

Ref No	Name	Title
PS01	David & Roni Pullen	Cladding motion
PS02	Christopher Allen	Cladding motion
PS03	Guy Wilson	Cladding motion
PS04	Oxana Burova	Cladding motion
PS05	Ashley Burgess	Cladding motion
PS06	Hamish Paterson	Cladding motion
PS07	David Mair	Cladding motion
PS08	Claire Paterson	Cladding motion
PS09	James Newcome	Cladding motion
PS10	Marianne Constans	Cladding motion
PS11	Kate Gadsden	Bristol Airport expansion



PS12	Graham Bultitude	Cladding motion
PS13	George Oakenfold	Bristol Airport expansion
PS14	Alastair Sawday	Bristol Airport expansion
PS15	Clive Weston	Bristol Airport expansion
PS16	Fraser Jamieson	Cladding motion
PS17	Catherine Kemplay	Bristol Airport expansion
PS18	Jill Coleman	Bristol Airport expansion
PS19	Tony Walmsley	Cladding motion
PS20	David Redgewell, SWTN & RF	WECA – North Somerset
PS21	Sarah Keown	Bristol Airport expansion
PS22	Suzannah Marshall-Smith	Cladding motion
PS23	Glenys Smith	Bristol Airport expansion
PS24	Jon Hewitt	Bristol Airport expansion
PS25	Isabella Harding	Bristol Airport expansion
PS26	Paul Hatchwell	Cladding motion
PS27	Yasmine Collins	Cladding motion
PS28	Richard Nicholas	Cladding motion
PS29	Alex Hartley	Cladding motion
PS30	Richard Matthews	Bristol Airport expansion
PS31	Isobel Clark	Bristol Airport expansion
PS32	Mary Collett	Bristol Airport expansion
PS33	Richard Hancock	Verges and wildlife
PS34	Tarisha Finnegan-Clarke	Bristol Airport expansion
PS35	Fenella Brotherwood	Bristol Airport expansion
PS36	Simon Omiotek	Bristol Airport expansion
PS37	Jill Tarlton	Bristol Airport expansion
PS38	Nikki Jones	Bristol Airport expansion
PS39	Kingsley Belton	Bristol Airport expansion
PS40	Janet Thumim	Bristol Airport expansion
PS41	Gill Phillips	Bristol Airport expansion
PS42	Arne Ringer	Bristol Airport expansion
PS43	Brian Piper	Bristol Airport expansion
PS44	Deasy Bamford	Bristol Airport expansion
PS45	Laura Norton	Bristol Airport expansion
PS46	Martin Phillips	Bristol Airport expansion
PS47	Constance Piper	Bristol Airport expansion
PS48	Bob Langton	Bristol Airport expansion
PS49	Sue Poole	Bristol Airport expansion
PS50	John Walters	Bristol Airport expansion
PS51	Rob Bryher	Bristol Airport expansion
PS52	Andy Parsons	Bristol Airport expansion
PS53	Katherine Piper	Bristol Airport expansion
PS54	David Clegg, Sustainable Clevedon	Bristol Airport expansion



PS55	Dr. Diana Warner	Bristol Airport expansion
PS56	Charlie Low	Bristol Airport expansion
PS57	Kiki Chatziantoniou	Cladding motion
PS58	Hazel Morfett	Bristol Airport expansion
PS59	Lucy Cooper	Bristol Airport expansion
PS60	Katy Grant	Mardkye Steps in Cliftonwood
PS61	Alexandra Geddis	Bristol Airport expansion
PS62	Zoe Michelle	Cladding motion
PS63	Sue Ryall	Bristol Airport expansion
PS64	Hannah Phillips	Bristol Airport expansion
PS65	Chandra Wilby	Verges and wildlife
PS66	Jane Richards	Bristol Airport expansion
PS67	Barbara Kenney	Bristol Airport expansion
PS68	Mavis Zutshi	Bristol Airport expansion
PS69	Dr Caroline New	Bristol Airport expansion
PS70	Committee for Friends of Royate Hill Local Nature Reserve	Verges and wildlife
PS71	Janet Jones	Bristol Airport expansion
PS72	David Acland	Bristol Airport expansion
PS73	Raphael Sibille	Verges and wildlife
PS74	Thebe Ringner	Bristol Airport expansion
PS75	Hugh Purvis	Ecological Emergency Strategy
PS76	Jacqueline Walkden	Bristol Airport expansion
PS77	Tony Jones	Bristol Airport expansion
PS78	Bristol Rewilding Group	Verges and wildlife
PS79	Michelle Lee Barker	Verges and wildlife
PS80	Narrowways Trustees	Verges and wildlife
PS81	Lisa Stone	Verges and wildlife
PS82	Chris Bayliss	mowing policy in Greenbank cemetery
PS83	Ross Stanley	Bristol Airport expansion
PS84	Kathryn Jeffs	Verges and wildlife
PS85	Richard Pedler	Verges and wildlife
PS86	Sara Cech-Lucs	Verges and wildlife
PS87	Simon Oliver	Bristol Airport expansion
PS88	Viv Perry	Bristol Airport expansion
PS89	Sue Crimlisk	Bristol Airport expansion
PS90	Mark Usher	Bristol Airport expansion
PS91	Sarah Shorter	Bristol Airport expansion
PS92	Dr Tessa Cook	Bristol Airport expansion
PS93	Harry Mac	Ecological Emergency Strategy
PS94	Nikki Waldron	Verges
PS95	Bob Helson	Verges
PS96	Rory Peliza	Bristol Airport expansion
PS97	Laurie Gibbs	Bristol Airport expansion



PS98	Sally Martin	Mowing
PS99	Delphine Holman	No Mow
PS100	Rosemary Collins	Bristol Airport expansion
PS101	Andrew Kinny	Cladding motion
PS102	Rosie Jackson	Verges and wildlife
PS103	Sara Jackson	Verges and wildlife
PS104	Revd Sue Parfitt	Bristol Airport expansion
PS105	James Collett	Bristol Airport expansion
PS106	Trish Mensah	Verges and wildlife
PS107	Catherine Bartlett	Bristol Airport expansion
PS108	Anna Spencer	Verges and wildlife
PS109	Gareth Williams	Bristol Airport expansion
PS110	Jackie King	Ecological Emergency Strategy
PS111	Jane Smith	Verges and wildlife
PS112	Keith Young	Speeding Newbridge Rd
PS113	Ian and Angela Curnock	Cladding motion
PS114	Mel Cairns	Bristol Airport expansion
PS115	Xeena Cooper	Bristol Airport expansion
PS116	Michael Howard	Verges and wildlife
PS117	Lynn Parfitt	Verges and wildlife
PS118	Steve Carpenter	Cladding motion
PS119	Breda Kingston	Bristol Airport expansion
PS120	Margaret Gorely	Cladding motion
PS121	Katy Spencer	Bristol Airport expansion
PS122	Bristol Disabled Equalities Forum	Bristol Transport
PS123	Karen Norman	Newbridge Road / Wick Road, Issue of Speeding Vehicles
PS124	Ben Anthony	Bristol Airport expansion
PS125	Dawn McGhee	Bristol Airport expansion
PS126	Sarah Cemlyn	Bristol Airport expansion
PS127	Oliver Lax	Bristol Airport expansion
PS128	Maggie Singham, Anna Richardson and Tamsin Richardson	Bristol Airport expansion
PS129	Steph Pike	Cladding motion
PS130	Nick Lewis	Bristol Airport expansion
PS131	Imassiah	Verges and wildlife
PS132	Rosie A	Bristol Airport expansion
PS133	Bridget Page	Bristol Airport expansion
PS134	Richard Lancaster	Bristol Airport expansion
PS135	CLlr Sarah Warren	Bristol Airport expansion
PS136	Robina Mallett	Bristol Airport expansion
PS137	Fraser Bridgeford , Bristol Cladding Action Group	Cladding motion



PS138	Eleri Davids	Cladding motion
PS139	Jane and Byron Thomas	Cladding motion
PS140	Margaret Boushel	Bristol Airport expansion
PS141	Henry Palmer	Cladding motion
PS142	Maggie Moss	Verges and wildlife
PS143	Peter Hughes	Bristol Airport expansion
PS144	Dr Rachel Lunnon	Bristol Airport expansion
PS145	Michael Page	Bristol Airport expansion
PS146	Winnie Love	Bristol Airport expansion
PS147	Kristin Payne	Cladding motion
PS148	Helen Struthers	Bristol Airport expansion
PS149	Mohamed Makawi	Return bus number 9 to service in Cotham & Redland
PS150	Keith G. Pearson	Cladding motion
PS151	Richard Baxter	Bristol Airport expansion
PS152	Dr Jonathan Wood	Bristol Airport expansion
PS153	Tim Morris, Unite Regional Officer	Bristol Airport expansion
PS154	Katharine Wale	Verges and wildlife
PS155	Ann Carrington	Verges and wildlife
PS156	Barbara Perks	Verges and wildlife

Within the time available, statements PS15, PS20, PS29, PS34, PS51, PS61, PS68, PS69, PS71, PS76 and PS135 were presented by individuals present at the meeting.

Public Questions:

The Full Council noted that the following questions had been submitted:

Ref No	Name	Title
PQ01	Eileen Means	Cladding in Bristol
PQ02	Alex Hartley	#EndOurCladdingScandal campaign
PQ03	Suzanne Audrey	WECA amended motion
PQ04	Suzanne Audrey	Jubilee Pool motion September 2020
PQ05	Steven Smith	Bristol Airport Expansion
PQ06 & PQ07	Robin Nash	Cladding
PQ08	Jackie Head	Bristol Airport Expansion
PQ09	Jonathan Hucker	Scotland Lane
PQ10 & PQ11	Anne Lemon	Bristol Airport Expansion
PQ12 & PQ13	David Redgewell	Membership of North Somerset within WECA
PQ14 & PQ15	Dennis Gornall, Hotwells and Cliftonwood Community Association	The Mardyke Steps



PQ16	Tom Bosanquet	St Lukes Road
PQ17	Barry Cash	Bristol Bridge
PQ18	Ed Plowden	St Luke's Road Windmill Hill
PQ19	Tom Phipps	Bristol South Swimming Pool, Dean Lane Southville
PQ20	Heather Mack	Loss of green space for Bonnington Road development
PQ21	Emma Edwards	The Expansion of Bristol Airport
PQ22	Richard Baxter	Bristol Airport Expansion

Within the time available, the Mayor responded verbally to questions PQ01 and PQ08 also responding to supplementary questions.

7. Petitions Notified by Councillors

There were none.

8. Equality and Inclusion Policy Strategy 2018-2023 refresh

The Full Council considered the refreshed Equality and Inclusion Policy Strategy 2018-2023.

Councillor Asher Craig moved the report and the recommendations contained therein.

Councillor Johnson seconded the report.

Following debate, it was

RESOLVED:

Full Council approved the updated Equality and Inclusion Policy 2018 – 2023 as part of the council's annual review of the policy.

9. Treasury Management mid year report 2020-2021

The Full Council considered a report which presented the Mid-Year Treasury Management report for 2020-2021.

Councillor Cheney moved the report and the recommendations contained therein.

Following debate, it was:

RESOLVED:

That the Mid-Year Treasury Management Report for 2020-2021 be noted.



10. Council Tax Base Report

The Full Council considered a report which set out, in line with regulations, the amount calculated by Bristol City Council as its Council Tax base for the financial year 2021-2022. The report presented had been updated following the spending review announced on 25th November 2020.

Councillor Cheney moved the report and the recommendations contained therein.

Councillor Alexander seconded the report.

Following debate is was:

RESOLVED:

That in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by Bristol City Council as its Council Tax base for the financial year 2021/22 shall be 127,950

11. Collection Fund Report

The Full Council considered a report which presented the Collection Fund Surplus at 31 March 2021 on the Council tax and Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) elements of the Collection Fund.

Councillor Cheney moved the report and the recommendations contained therein.

Councillor Hickman seconded the report.

Following debate, it was:

RESOLVED:

- 1. That an estimated deficit at 31 March 2021 on the Council Tax element of the Collection Fund, net of grants, of £5.574m be declared for 2020/21 and shared between this Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Avon and Somerset and the Avon Fire and Rescue Service in proportion to their 2020/21 precepts on the Collection Fund.**
- 2. That an estimated deficit at 31 March 2021 on the Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) element of the Collection Fund, net of grants, of £8.569m be declared for 2020/21 and shared between this Council, Avon Fire and Rescue Service and the West of England Combined Authority (WECA) in proportion to the appropriate year demands (For 2020/21: Bristol 94%, WECA 4%, Avon Fire and Rescue Service 1%).**



12. Lord Mayor's Protocol

The Full Council considered a report which set out the proposed Lord Mayor's Protocol for publication within the Constitution. The Protocol would formalise the current arrangements relating to the Lord Mayor.

Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Carole Johnson seconded the report.

There was no debate and it was

RESOLVED:

That Full Council adopts the Lord Mayor's Protocol for publication within the Constitution.

13. Motions

There was a short adjournment.

Motion 1: Protect the Next Generation – Stop Bristol Airport Expansion

Councillor Thomas moved the following motion:

Full Council notes that:

- Bristol City Council has led the way in declaring climate and ecological emergencies.
- The proposed expansion of Bristol Airport is one of the biggest carbon decisions in the region for the coming decade.

Full Council:

- Opposes the proposed expansion of Bristol Airport.
- Calls on Bristol's Mayor to publicly oppose the proposed expansion and write to the planning inspector hearing the appeal to formally object to the airport's expansion plans.

Background Notes

The proposed expansion of Bristol Airport is the biggest carbon decision in the region for the coming decade. By way of context, the internal carbon emissions of Bristol (Scope 1 and 2) are 1.6 million tonnes per year. The growth in carbon emissions from the proposed airport expansion is around 1 million tonnes per year, which is over 50% of Bristol's current carbon emissions (1). Although Bristol City Council has declared climate and ecological emergencies, Bristol's Mayor previously declared his support for the expansion (2) and lodged a letter of support in the original planning application.

Airport expansion has never been discussed or voted on by Bristol's councillors.



The airport submitted plans to expand in 2018 which were turned down in Feb 2020; they have now appealed against this refusal. Their plans would mean an extra 23,600 flights per year and two million passengers a year (as well as an extra 10,000 car movements a day and a multi-storey car park on green belt land).

Although the Bristol Mayor and Bristol City Council are not the decision makers they are important voices in this decision making process and any objection they make to these plans could make a real difference to the outcome of the appeal.

References:

<https://www.isonomia.co.uk/just-plane-wrong-bristol-airports-expansion-application/>

<https://thebristolmayor.com/2018/11/01/up-up-and-away-2/>

The motion was seconded by Councillor Stephen Clarke.

Councillor Dudd then moved the following amendment:

‘That the motion be amended to read as follows:

Full Council notes that:

- Bristol City Council has led the way in declaring climate and ecological emergencies.
- The proposed expansion of Bristol Airport is one of the biggest carbon decisions in the region for the coming decade, as it signals that growth in aviation travel can continue unabated.

Full Council:

- Acknowledges that airport expansion is incompatible with Bristol, the West of England and the region’s carbon reduction targets and therefore must not go ahead.
- Acknowledges that aviation is responsible for 3% of all carbon emissions worldwide, and that, critically, it is the only area where emissions are projected to increase.
- Understands that, in order to reduce the air miles travelled, which is essential, imposing a tax on aviation fuel and using other mechanisms to foster responsible air travel is essential, but also recognises that these powers are not within our remit.
- Recognises the negative environmental consequences of the expansion of Bristol Airport, and supports the North Somerset Planning Committee’s decision to reject the expansion plans, as there are other elements such as noise nuisance and loss of green belt land which are also unacceptable.
- Recognises Bristol Airport’s role as an employer in the region and recognises the need for a just transition to a greener economy – that does not leave workers worse-off – moving the economy away from polluting high carbon activities like flying to more sustainable forms of travel.
- Notes that promising developments have been made towards moving the aviation sector towards green technology, such as electric and hydrogen-powered planes, which would provide green jobs



in Bristol and the surrounding area. However, Council also notes that these technologies are many years away from implementation and that they need the accelerant of knowing that unabated expansion will not be allowed.

- Calls on the Mayor to lend his support to any Bristol City councillor that would like to write, individually or collectively, to the Planning Inspector hearing the appeal, asking them not to overturn the decision of North Somerset Council to reject airport expansion.

The amendment was seconded by Councillor Shah.

Following debate, upon being put to the vote, the amendment was CARRIED.

There was then a debate on the substantive motion on the table before the Lord Mayor invited Councillor Thomas, as mover of the original motion to speak.

Following final remarks, upon being put to the vote, the amended motion was CARRIED and it was

RESOLVED:

Full Council notes that:

- **Bristol City Council has led the way in declaring climate and ecological emergencies.**
- **The proposed expansion of Bristol Airport is one of the biggest carbon decisions in the region for the coming decade, as it signals that growth in aviation travel can continue unabated.**

Full Council:

- **Acknowledges that airport expansion is incompatible with Bristol, the West of England and the region's carbon reduction targets and therefore must not go ahead.**
- **Acknowledges that aviation is responsible for 3% of all carbon emissions worldwide, and that, critically, it is the only area where emissions are projected to increase.**
- **Understands that, in order to reduce the air miles travelled, which is essential, imposing a tax on aviation fuel and using other mechanisms to foster responsible air travel is essential, but also recognises that these powers are not within our remit.**
- **Recognises the negative environmental consequences of the expansion of Bristol Airport, and supports the North Somerset Planning Committee's decision to reject the expansion plans, as there are other elements such as noise nuisance and loss of green belt land which are also unacceptable.**
- **Recognises Bristol Airport's role as an employer in the region and recognises the need for a just transition to a greener economy – that does not leave workers worse-off – moving the economy away from polluting high carbon activities like flying to more sustainable forms of travel.**



- **Notes that promising developments have been made towards moving the aviation sector towards green technology, such as electric and hydrogen-powered planes, which would provide green jobs in Bristol and the surrounding area. However, Council also notes that these technologies are many years away from implementation and that they need the accelerant of knowing that unabated expansion will not be allowed.**
- **Calls on the Mayor to lend his support to any Bristol City councillor that would like to write, individually or collectively, to the Planning Inspector hearing the appeal, asking them not to overturn the decision of North Somerset Council to reject airport expansion.**

It was then moved by the Lord Mayor that standing order CPR2.1(xi) be suspended to allow the meeting to go past the 30 minutes time limit for motions. Following a vote it was agreed to proceed for a further 20 minutes.

Motion 2: End our cladding and EWS1 scandal

Councillor Wright moved the following altered motion:

Council notes that:

- a. Following the human tragedy of the **2017 Grenfell Tower fire** taking 72 lives blamed on Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) cladding, this has rightfully led to a focus on fire safety in buildings across the country.
- b. The Government banned the use of all combustible materials on the walls of new high rises in November 2018 (MHCLG, Government bans combustible materials on high-rise homes, 29 November 2018) meaning the problem has now extended beyond ACM cladding to buildings decorated with other materials that could be flammable - including balconies, and wooden panels. However, it did not legislate for building owners to take action or provide sufficient compensation funds to cover all situations.
- c. In parallel, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and the UK Council of Mortgage Lenders agreed the industry External Wall System fire review and certification process resulting in what is known as an EWS1 form. Only circa 300 professional fire safety engineers nationally are qualified to issue these - creating a bottleneck across the country including in Bristol.
- d. Without an EWS1 form, many lenders are now refusing to provide mortgages. As there is no Government legislation forcing owners to produce EWS1 forms or to take remedial action, many leaseholders are having to battle with owners whether their Local Authority, Housing Associations or private landlords. Remediation costs are also skyrocketing in the £100Ks and many owners are forcing this back on leaseholders via financially ruinous service charges – including impacting those in shared ownership.



- e. Subsequently, residents and leaseholders through no fault of their own are being left in potentially ruinous limbo unable to mortgage properties, re-mortgage and therefore unable to buy and sell. Additionally residents are living in fear in homes with no idea if they are safe. This is fundamentally holding up people's lives, costing our residents money they shouldn't have to pay and leaving a huge mental health impact.

Council therefore calls on Cabinet to:

- a. Sign up the Council to the End Our Cladding Scandal campaign: **endourcladdingscandal@gmail.com**.
- b. Support the Justice4Grenfell campaign and its efforts to hold those responsible for the approval of dangerous cladding and insulation material to account.
- c. Support the Fire Brigades' Union campaign to draw light to the issue of dangerous materials, and the work it is doing to campaign for safe building regulations.
- d. Lobby all private building owners and Housing Associations in Bristol to act immediately in remediating known issues and achieve EWS1 certification. Full Council Notes that the responsibility for the use of unsafe building materials lies with the freeholder, and will lobby the Government for stronger regulations to hold freeholders accountable for their buildings' safety.
- e. Investigate options for Bristol Council's Building Control team to upskill a dedicated team funded by freeholder applications to perform EWS1 assessments. The aim being to accelerate remediation and certification with a trusted partner. This may also have a longer term benefit to increasing job opportunities in Bristol.
- f. Encourage Councillors in wards particularly affected by buildings with potentially-unsafe cladding to advocate for residents increasing pressure on freeholders to provide EWS1 forms, to avoid any cost to their leaseholders.
- g. Provide a training scheme for Councillors so they can assist residents with all matters relating to EWS1 forms, such as lobbying building owners, and claiming Government funds to rectify their buildings, to the best of their abilities.
- h. Explore what Bristol City Council's Planning and Building Control team can do to withhold signing off pre-occupation planning conditions where the applicant has outstanding snagging or EWS1 certification issues in Bristol.
- i. Lobby and work with the MPs, MHCLG and the Mayor of Bristol to:
 - i. Devolve powers to Bristol Council in order to have jurisdiction over enforcing remediation of housing of all tenures and to obtain local control over the relevant compensation funds from the Government for Bristol so the Council can actively support affected residents in Bristol of all tenures.



ii. Adopt the sensible **recommendations of the Housing, Communities and Local Government Select Committee** that the EWS1 process could be reformed to urgently revise and implement a process (at no cost to leaseholders) that offers clarity to lenders, insurers and peace of mind for homeowners and buyers to re-instate re-mortgaging and property sales provided there is no immediate danger.

iii. Adopt the 10 asks of the **End Our Cladding Scandal campaign**.

Councillor Beech seconded the motion.

Following debate, upon being put to the vote, the altered motion was CARRIED

RESOLVED:

Council notes that:

- a. **Following the human tragedy of the 2017 Grenfell Tower fire taking 72 lives blamed on Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) cladding, this has rightfully led to a focus on fire safety in buildings across the country.**
- b. **The Government banned the use of all combustible materials on the walls of new high rises in November 2018 (MHCLG, Government bans combustible materials on high-rise homes, 29 November 2018) meaning the problem has now extended beyond ACM cladding to buildings decorated with other materials that could be flammable - including balconies, and wooden panels. However, it did not legislate for building owners to take action or provide sufficient compensation funds to cover all situations.**
- c. **In parallel, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and the UK Council of Mortgage Lenders agreed the industry External Wall System fire review and certification process resulting in what is known as an EWS1 form. Only circa 300 professional fire safety engineers nationally are qualified to issue these - creating a bottleneck across the country including in Bristol.**
- d. **Without an EWS1 form, many lenders are now refusing to provide mortgages. As there is no Government legislation forcing owners to produce EWS1 forms or to take remedial action, many leaseholders are having to battle with owners whether their Local Authority, Housing Associations or private landlords. Remediation costs are also skyrocketing in the £100Ks and many owners are forcing this back on leaseholders via financially ruinous service charges – including impacting those in shared ownership.**
- e. **Subsequently, residents and leaseholders through no fault of their own are being left in potentially ruinous limbo unable to mortgage properties, re-mortgage and therefore unable to buy and sell. Additionally residents are living in fear in homes with no idea if they are safe. This is fundamentally holding up people's lives, costing our residents money they shouldn't have to pay and leaving a huge mental health impact.**



Council therefore calls on Cabinet to:

- a. **Sign up the Council to the End Our Cladding Scandal campaign: endourcladdingscandal@gmail.com.**
- b. **Support the Justice4Grenfell campaign and its efforts to hold those responsible for the approval of dangerous cladding and insulation material to account.**
- c. **Support the Fire Brigades' Union campaign to draw light to the issue of dangerous materials, and the work it is doing to campaign for safe building regulations.**
- d. **Lobby all private building owners and Housing Associations in Bristol to act immediately in remediating known issues and achieve EWS1 certification. Full Council Notes that the responsibility for the use of unsafe building materials lies with the freeholder, and will lobby the Government for stronger regulations to hold freeholders accountable for their buildings' safety.**
- e. **Investigate options for Bristol Council's Building Control team to upskill a dedicated team funded by freeholder applications to perform EWS1 assessments. The aim being to accelerate remediation and certification with a trusted partner. This may also have a longer term benefit to increasing job opportunities in Bristol.**
- f. **Encourage Councillors in wards particularly affected by buildings with potentially-unsafe cladding to advocate for residents increasing pressure on freeholders to provide EWS1 forms, to avoid any cost to their leaseholders.**
- g. **Provide a training scheme for Councillors so they can assist residents with all matters relating to EWS1 forms, such as lobbying building owners, and claiming Government funds to rectify their buildings, to the best of their abilities.**
- h. **Explore what Bristol City Council's Planning and Building Control team can do to withhold signing off pre-occupation planning conditions where the applicant has outstanding snagging or EWS1 certification issues in Bristol.**
- i. **Lobby and work with the MPs, MHCLG and the Mayor of Bristol to:**
 - i. **Devolve powers to Bristol Council in order to have jurisdiction over enforcing remediation of housing of all tenures and to obtain local control over the relevant compensation funds from the Government for Bristol so the Council can actively support affected residents in Bristol of all tenures.**
 - ii. **Adopt the sensible recommendations of the Housing, Communities and Local Government Select Committee that the EWS1 process could be reformed to urgently revise and implement a process (at no cost to leaseholders) that offers clarity to lenders, insurers and peace of mind for**



homeowners and buyers to re-instate re-mortgaging and property sales provided there is no immediate danger.

iii. Adopt the 10 asks of the End Our Cladding Scandal campaign.

Meeting ended at 4.50 pm

CHAIR _____

