

# Bristol City Council

## Minutes of the Full Council

6 July 2021 at 6.00 pm



### Members Present:-

**Councillors:** Mayor Marvin Rees, Donald Alexander, Lesley Alexander, Kerry Bailes, Jenny Bartle, Marley Bennett, Mark Bradshaw, Fabian Breckels, Andrew Brown, Jos Clark, Sarah Classick, Amirah Cole, Asher Craig, Chris Davies, Carla Denyer, Tony Dyer, Richard Eddy, Emma Edwards, Jude English, Lily Fitzgibbon, Tessa Fitzjohn, Martin Fodor, Lorraine Francis, John Geater, Helen Godwin, Geoff Gollop, Zoe Goodman, John Goulandris, Katy Grant, Fi Hance, Alex Hartley, Tom Hathway, Helen Holland, Gary Hopkins, Jonathan Hucker, Philippa Hulme, Farah Hussain, Chris Jackson, Hibaq Jama, Ellie King, Tim Kent, Mohamed Makawi, Brenda Massey, Henry Michallat, Yassin Mohamud, Graham Morris, Paula O'Rourke, Barry Parsons, Steve Pearce, Ed Plowden, Guy Poultney, Kevin Quartley, Tom Renhard, Tim Rippington, James Scott, Sharon Scott, Steve Smith, Ani Stafford-Townsend, Lisa Stone, Christine Townsend, Andrew Varney, Mark Weston, Chris Windows and Tim Wye

### 1 Welcome and Introductions

The Lord Mayor welcomed all attendees to the meeting and made a safety announcement in relation to the emergency evacuation procedure.

### 2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were heard from Councillors Ali, Cheney, Goggin, Hornchen, Jama, Mack and Wilcox.

### 3 Declarations of Interest

None received.

### 4 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

On the motion of the Lord Mayor, seconded by Councillor Goulandris, it was



**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 2021 be confirmed as correct record and signed by the Lord Mayor.

**5 Lord Mayor's Business**

There was none.

**6 Public Forum (Public Petitions, Statements and Questions)****Public petitions:**

One public petition had been received which was referred to Development Control Committee for consideration and response.

Ref No	Name	Title
PP01	Luke Geach	Access to public toilets for bus drivers

**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	Rob Harris	HMO Register
PS02	Bristol SEND Alliance	SEND
PS03	David Mullaney	Allotment Locks
PS04	Jen Smith	Skate Stops and Disability Discrimination
PS05	Clare Freshwater-Turner	Road Safety- Cranbrook Road- another accident
PS06	David Redgewell	Transport and Buses
PS07	Tom Bosanquet	pedestrian crossing over St. Lukes Rd
PS08	Penny Gane	Bristol Women's Commission Statement
PS09	Merche Clark	Libraries

Within the time available, statements PS04 and PS08 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 & PQ02	Johanna Spiers	Council's Green Spaces
PQ03 & PQ04	Julie Milton	Management of Council Land for Wildlife
PQ05 & PQ06	Roxanne Ismail	Council's plans for green spaces for wildlife
PQ07 & PQ08	Grant Mercer	A connected wildlife network in Bristol & management of the Councils verges and green spaces
PQ09 & PQ10	Tim Mason	Pesticide Policy
PQ11 & PQ12	Sarah Watson	Non-Council green spaces and landowners
PQ13 & PQ14	Sarah Thomas	Pesticide-free Council land and managing land for wildlife
PQ15 & PQ16	Dan Geerah	Management of the Council's own green space
PQ17 & PQ18	Robert Smart	Bristol City Council grassland and Environmental Emergency Action Plan
PQ19 & PQ20	Nicola Earnshaw	Rapid Response to the Ecological Emergency
PQ21	Our Air, Our City (Nigel Shipley)	Clean Air Zone implementation
PQ22 & PQ23	Suzanne Audrey	Access to Temple Island/ A4
PQ24	Andrea Mackay	Cycling Gloucester Road
PQ25	Katrina Billings, Bristol Clean Air Alliance	Clean Air Zone Update
PQ26 & PQ27	David Redgewell, South West Transport Network and Railfuture Severnside	Stakeholders and Passengers consultation and review of WECA

Within the time available, the Mayor responded verbally to questions PQ15, PQ16, PQ21 and PQ25 also responding to supplementary questions.

## 7 Petitions Notified by Councillors

The Full Council received and noted the following petitions:

Petition CP01 – petition of 49 signatories, presented by Councillor Hulme.

We the undersigned ask the Council to restrict the extent of the Construction Compound to ensure safe and proper vehicle access, ensure the number of road closures for site deliveries and construction work is restricted to the approved number, and to ensure full and proper enforcement action is carried out (relating to a planning approval 20\_01595\_F)



## **8 Mayor's address to Full Council with Party Group Leaders responses**

The Full Council received and noted the annual statement from the Mayor of Bristol, Marvin Rees.

Councillors Pearce, O'Rourke, Weston and Clark then responded to the Mayor's statement on behalf of their respective political groups.

The Mayor then made a final response and summed up.

## **9 Equality and Inclusion Annual Report 2020/21**

The Full Council considered a report presenting the Equality and Inclusion Annual Progress Report 2020-2021.

Councillor Craig introduced the report.

Following debate is was:

### **RESOLVED**

- 1. Full Council noted the Equality and Inclusion Annual Progress Report 2020-2021**
- 2. Full Council noted the Local Government Association Equality Framework for Local Government Report and response**
- 3. Full Council noted the Advancing Equality and Inclusion at BCC – New Actions for 2020-2021 closure report.**

## **10 Bristol's first Citizens' Assembly recommendations**

The Full Council considered the report which outlined the formal handover of the report of the Citizens' Assembly's recommendations and proposed actions.

Councillor Craig moved the report and it was seconded by Councillor O'Rourke.

Following debate it was:

### **RESOLVED:**

- 1. Full Council noted the formal handover of the report of the Citizens' Assembly's recommendations and proposed actions**
- 2. Full Council noted the Citizens' Assembly report was being considered as part of the evidence base for the Council's update of its medium-term Corporate Strategy.**
- 3. Full Council noted that the report of the Citizens' Assembly's recommendations and proposed actions would be shared with the One City Economy Board and other One City Boards for consideration to**



**inform the city's economic recovery and renewal strategy and in preparing the 2022 refresh of the One City Plan (publication planned in March 2022)**

## **11 Licensing Committee - Membership Change**

The Full Council considered a report which proposed the appointment of Councillor Edwards to the Licensing Committee. Any vacancies on the Committee must be filled by Full Council in accordance with section 6 of the Licensing Act 2003.

The Lord Mayor moved the recommendations within the report.

The Deputy Lord Mayor seconded the report.

There was no debate and it was:

**RESOLVED:**

**That Councillor Edwards be appointed to serve on the Licensing Committee**

## **12 Motions**

Following a short adjournment, 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 up until a 60 minute limit for motions and a 9pm finish time for the meeting.

### **1. Golden Motion - Homelessness and Immigration Rules**

Councillor Renhard moved the following motion:

1. This council notes the Government Immigration Rules published on 22 October 2020, coming into effect on 1 December 2020 which made rough sleeping grounds for refusing or cancelling a person's leave to remain in the UK.
2. This council further notes the implementation guidance published by the Government on 20 April 2021 which clarifies how the rules will be implemented
3. This council welcomes Bristol's status as a City of Sanctuary and the work the administration is doing to make Bristol a welcoming place for refugees.
4. This council welcomes the Labour administration's work to reduce rough sleeping by 80% since 2016.
5. This council welcomes the Labour administration's introduction of Bristol Street Outreach – a new service to help accelerate the Council's work to end rough sleeping in Bristol.



6. This council welcomes the government's ongoing commitment to end rough sleeping by 2024.

**This council believes**

7. In order to end rough sleeping, people experiencing homelessness must be able to confidently approach local services provided by this council and its commissioned partners.
8. That the immigration rules as proposed will dissuade many people facing homelessness from accessing those services for fear that their details will be passed to immigration authorities and that this will lead to an increase in rough sleeping

**This council therefore pledges**

9. Subject to the circumstances of each individual case, in order to assist the national effort to end rough sleeping we will make no direct referrals under the rough sleeping Immigration Rules.
10. The council will also not require any of our commissioned partners to make referrals or pass data to the Home Office under the Immigration rules.
11. The council will only share information and data with the Home Office with the explicit and informed consent of the individual.
12. To display this commitment prominently in public areas and on our website and to inform those organisations that we work with (commissioned and non-commissioned) who make referrals to us of this policy.
13. To join Homeless Links's #SupportDontDeport campaign and allow our logo to be identified with that campaign.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Rippington.

Councillor Weston moved the following amendment:

'That the motion be amended to read as follows:

1. This council notes the Government Immigration Rules published on 22 October 2020, coming into effect on 1 December 2020 which made rough sleeping grounds for refusing or cancelling a person's leave to remain in the UK.
2. This council further notes the implementation guidance published by the Government on 20 April 2021 which clarifies how the rules will be implemented
3. This council welcomes Bristol's status as a City of Sanctuary and the work the administration is doing to make Bristol a welcoming place for refugees.
4. This council welcomes the Labour administration's work to reduce rough sleeping by 80% since 2016.



5. This Council wishes to particularly acknowledge the extra resources and support given by Central Government to provide everyone sleeping rough with safe accommodation during the health crisis.
6. This council welcomes the Labour administration's introduction of Bristol Street Outreach – a new service to help accelerate the Council's work to end rough sleeping in Bristol.
7. This council welcomes the government's ongoing commitment to end rough sleeping by 2024.

**This council believes**

8. In order to end rough sleeping, people experiencing homelessness must be able to confidently approach local services provided by this council and its commissioned partners.
9. However, any laws, rules or regulations governing this activity must balance compassion and empathy for the individual with the reasonable expectations around enforcement demanded by the public.
10. Accordingly, and as subsequent clarification on these rule changes makes clear, the refusal or cancellation of a migrant's permission to stay would only be made in exceptional circumstances where that person has repeatedly refused suitable offers of support and/or engaged in persistent anti-social behaviour.
11. Notwithstanding the above qualification the immigration rules as proposed could still theoretically dissuade some people facing homelessness from accessing those services for fear that their details will be passed to immigration authorities and that this might occasion an increase in rough sleeping

**This council therefore pledges**

12. Subject to the circumstances of each individual case, and where the conditions set out in para. 10 have not yet been established, we will not automatically make direct referrals under the rough sleeping Immigration Rules.
13. Similarly, in the absence of any previous intervention(s) and/or acts of lawlessness the council will also not require any of our commissioned partners to make referrals or pass data to the Home Office under the Immigration rules.
14. To display this commitment prominently in public areas and on our website and to inform those organisations that we work with (commissioned and non-commissioned) who make referrals to us of this policy.

The amendment was seconded by Councillor Quartley

Following debate upon being put to the vote, the amendment was LOST (12 For, 49 Against, 0 Abstentions)

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



Following final remarks, upon being put to the vote, the original motion was CARRIED (49 For, 0 Against, 12 Abstentions) it was

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. This council notes the Government Immigration Rules published on 22 October 2020, coming into effect on 1 December 2020 which made rough sleeping grounds for refusing or cancelling a person's leave to remain in the UK.**
- 2. This council further notes the implementation guidance published by the Government on 20 April 2021 which clarifies how the rules will be implemented**
- 3. This council welcomes Bristol's status as a City of Sanctuary and the work the administration is doing to make Bristol a welcoming place for refugees.**
- 4. This council welcomes the Labour administration's work to reduce rough sleeping by 80% since 2016.**
- 5. This council welcomes the Labour administration's introduction of Bristol Street Outreach – a new service to help accelerate the Council's work to end rough sleeping in Bristol.**
- 6. This council welcomes the government's ongoing commitment to end rough sleeping by 2024.**

**This council believes**

- 7. In order to end rough sleeping, people experiencing homelessness must be able to confidently approach local services provided by this council and its commissioned partners.**
- 8. That the immigration rules as proposed will dissuade many people facing homelessness from accessing those services for fear that their details will be passed to immigration authorities and that this will lead to an increase in rough sleeping**

**This council therefore pledges**

- 9. Subject to the circumstances of each individual case, in order to assist the national effort to end rough sleeping we will make no direct referrals under the rough sleeping Immigration Rules.**
- 10. The council will also not require any of our commissioned partners to make referrals or pass data to the Home Office under the Immigration rules.**
- 11. The council will only share information and data with the Home Office with the explicit and informed consent of the individual.**
- 12. To display this commitment prominently in public areas and on our website and to inform those organisations that we work with (commissioned and non-commissioned) who make referrals to us of this policy.**



### 13. To join Homeless Links's #SupportDontDeport campaign and allow our logo to be identified with that campaign.

#### Silver Motion – LGBT+ Mental Health Protection

Councillor Hartley moved the following motion:

##### Full Council notes that:

1. Under the Equalities Act 2010, Bristol City Council has a legal duty to combat discrimination and promote equality.
2. That the Council's Equality Strategy 2018-2023 establishes the principles that the Council will work *"with residents and employers to create communities which are able to come together, value diversity and challenge discrimination"*
3. That a 2018 Stonewall Report on health among LGBT+ people states that over half of LGBT+ people (52%) experienced depression in the previous year.
4. The same report states that one in eight LGBT+ people aged 18-24 (13 per cent) said they've attempted to take their own life in the previous year.
5. A 2016 Bristol LGBT+ Health & Wellbeing Needs Survey commissioned by Bristol Healthwatch found that 61% of participants had sought help for anxiety or depression, and that 32% of respondents had hurt or injured themselves in an act of self harm.
6. Gay and Bisexual men are 4 times more likely to attempt suicide across their lifetime than the rest of the population.
7. Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic (BAME) LGBT+ face additional barriers, with 18% experiencing difficulties trying to access healthcare services, and 62% experience depression.
8. Young LGBT+ persons are particularly affected, with data from the Queer Futures 2016 study stating that over 70% of young LGBT+ people experienced discrimination, bullying, rejection, physical and verbal violence, threats and/or other forms of marginalisation related to their sexual orientation and gender identity.
9. Older LGBT+ people also face discrimination or choose to re-enter the closet when, for example, accessing health and care provision in older age.
10. One in seven LGBT+ people (14 per cent) avoid seeking healthcare for fear of discrimination from staff.



11. Almost one in four LGBT+ people (23 per cent) have witnessed discriminatory or negative remarks against LGBT+ people by healthcare staff. In the last year alone, six per cent of LGBT+ people – including 20 per cent of trans people – have witnessed these remarks.
12. These trends are often more marked in the experiences of trans people.
13. The pandemic has likely made it more difficult for LGBT+ people to have access to mental health support, who may have been trapped in circumstances where they have been unable to fully express themselves.

**Full Council believes:**

1. In the equality of all people regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.
2. That mental health treatment should have parity with physical health treatment.
3. That greater support is required for LGBT+ people suffering from mental health conditions than they are currently receiving.

**Full Council resolves to:**

1. Ask the Head of Equality & Inclusion to ensure that within the Council itself, a robust set of processes are created through our staff led groups and trade unions to protect the mental health of LGBT+ council staff.
2. Carry out a survey of Bristol LGBT+ residents to assess the current issues around health within the LGBT+ Community, similar to the 2016 Bristol LGBT+ Health & Wellbeing Needs Survey
3. Work with our partners across the city, other Equalities Charter signatories, and the large range of LGBT+ charities working within mental health across Bristol to create a strategic plan for improving the mental health of the LGBT+ community.
4. Work with local charities and our city partners promote services available to LGBT+ persons for assistance with their mental health.
5. Ask the Cabinet Member for Education to write to all the governing bodies, proprietors (of academy chains), headteachers and principals of every school across the city to offer the Council's support in delivering greater levels of LGBT+ mental health support in our schools.

The motion was seconded by Councillor Craig.

Following debate, upon being put to the vote, the original motion was CARRIED and it was

**RESOLVED:**

**Full Council notes that:**



1. Under the Equalities Act 2010, Bristol City Council has a legal duty to combat discrimination and promote equality.
2. That the Council's Equality Strategy 2018-2023 establishes the principles that the Council will work *"with residents and employers to create communities which are able to come together, value diversity and challenge discrimination"*
3. That a 2018 Stonewall Report on health among LGBT+ people states that over half of LGBT+ people (52%) experienced depression in the previous year.
4. The same report states that one in eight LGBT+ people aged 18-24 (13 per cent) said they've attempted to take their own life in the previous year.
5. A 2016 Bristol LGBT+ Health & Wellbeing Needs Survey commissioned by Bristol Healthwatch found that 61% of participants had sought help for anxiety or depression, and that 32% of respondents had hurt or injured themselves in an act of self harm.
6. Gay and Bisexual men are 4 times more likely to attempt suicide across their lifetime than the rest of the population.
7. Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic (BAME) LGBT+ face additional barriers, with 18% experiencing difficulties trying to access healthcare services, and 62% experience depression.
8. Young LGBT+ persons are particularly affected, with data from the Queer Futures 2016 study stating that over 70% of young LGBT+ people experienced discrimination, bullying, rejection, physical and verbal violence, threats and/or other forms of marginalisation related to their sexual orientation and gender identity.
9. Older LGBT+ people also face discrimination or choose to re-enter the closet when, for example, accessing health and care provision in older age.
10. One in seven LGBT+ people (14 per cent) avoid seeking healthcare for fear of discrimination from staff.
11. Almost one in four LGBT+ people (23 per cent) have witnessed discriminatory or negative remarks against LGBT+ people by healthcare staff. In the last year alone, six per cent of LGBT+ people – including 20 per cent of trans people – have witnessed these remarks.
12. These trends are often more marked in the experiences of trans people.
13. The pandemic has likely made it more difficult for LGBT+ people to have access to mental health support, who may have been trapped in circumstances where they have been unable to fully express themselves.

Full Council believes:



2. In the equality of all people regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.
2. That mental health treatment should have parity with physical health treatment.
3. That greater support is required for LGBT+ people suffering from mental health conditions than they are currently receiving.

**Full Council resolves to:**

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3. Work with our partners across the city, other Equalities Charter signatories, and the large range of LGBT+ charities working within mental health across Bristol to create a strategic plan for improving the mental health of the LGBT+ community.
4. Work with local charities and our city partners promote services available to LGBT+ persons for assistance with their mental health.
5. Ask the Cabinet Member for Education to write to all the governing bodies, proprietors (of academy chains), headteachers and principals of every school across the city to offer the Council's support in delivering greater levels of LGBT+ mental health support in our schools.

Meeting ended at 8.50 pm

**CHAIR** \_\_\_\_\_

