

Bristol Scrutiny

Scope Template - Scrutiny Working Groups



| Title: CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP | |
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| 1. Purpose of group / terms of reference & scope / objectives | |
| Purpose / terms of reference | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To enable members to make recommendations to the Overview & Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) on key opportunities, risks and issues affecting Bristol City Council's current and potential future climate action (in anticipation that the published report/recommendations are then formally presented to the executive via Cabinet). - This may include making final and interim recommendations on how the existing actions are delivered, potential future actions, opportunities for cross-party collaboration and where advocacy and pressure for national action is needed. - This could include recommended actions for the short term (1-2 years) or longer term (3-8 years, in the context of meeting the city's carbon neutrality and resilience ambition). |
| Scope | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The scope may include the work of any service in relation to these topics (noting the need to avoid unnecessary duplication of other scrutiny processes) and may consider connections to wider actions/actors outside of the council. - The scope will include emissions reduction and climate resilience, with an emphasis on emissions reduction. However, flood defence and city resilience to flooding is out of scope as a scrutiny inquiry day looking exclusively at this is planned for February 2023. - The scope includes social and economic issues as well as the environmental and physical aspects of climate change. - In taking forward this work, the working group will be mindful of examining any relevant national and international best practice which may be applicable. |
| Objectives | <p>Meeting monthly, the aim is that the 7-month work programme will enable the group to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Develop a strong understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bristol's and the City Council's carbon emissions and climate resilience. - The context and challenges associated with achieving action on climate change. - The role of local authorities in climate action and their limitations. - The council's current climate policies and strategies, objectives and commitments. - The council's current planned actions. - The contribution of those actions to achieving the council's objectives and commitments. * Identify key opportunities, risks, strengths and weaknesses of the council's current and potential future climate action. * Identify key areas for cross party collaboration to amplify the key opportunities, and to mitigate risks and issues above. |

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| | * Make prioritised, practical recommendations for council and city climate action, areas where cross party collaboration and consensus could assist this and where national action is needed. |
| 2. Member Involvement | |
| Chair of the Working Group | Cllr Katy Grant, Chair Cllr Katja Hornchen, Vice-Chair (note: chairing arrangements were confirmed at first meeting on 13 October) |
| Members of the Working Group | 1. Cllr Katy Grant - Chair (G) 2. Cllr Katja Hornchen - Vice-Chair (L) 3. Cllr Mark Weston (C) 4. Cllr Henry Michallat (C) 5. Cllr Marley Bennett (L) 6. Cllr Fabian Breckels (L) 7. Cllr Martin Fodor (G) 8. Cllr Heather Mack (G) 9. Cllr Andrew Varney (LD) 10. Cllr Gary Hopkins (KCP) |
| Related Cabinet Member/s | Cllr Kye Dudd, Cabinet member for Climate, ecology, waste and energy |
| 3. Officer Support | |
| Lead Directorate Officer(s) | Alex Minshull, Sustainable City & Climate Change Manager Alex Ivory, Climate Change Team Manager |
| Scrutiny Advisor | Ian Hird |
| List of possible internal and external witnesses/contributors and key information required | Update/keep under review as Working Group proceeds. |
| 4. Timing / meeting arrangements | |
| How long is the group's work expected to take? (estimated length of time) | 7 months |
| Meeting format | All meetings will be in private although the working group will be able to invite stakeholders to join to provide evidence. The November meeting will be online/virtual. The 3 deep dive sessions in December, January and February will be in-person (with the hybrid link-in facility used where possible). |
| Ways of working | Members will work collaboratively to produce constructive recommendations. The group will seek to achieve consensus in developing its recommendations, but if full consensus cannot be achieved, the view of the majority will be presented. |
| Envisaged work programme | 13 October: Initial session: 1. Confirmed chairing arrangements and agreed terms of reference/scope to submit to OSMB on 27 October. 2. Received an introductory briefing on the council's current climate objectives. |

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| | <p>Also in October: Voluntary training sessions offered on carbon literacy (open to all Cllrs) – using existing course (or circulated online). The training will cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Climate science and national and city policy and strategy. - Bristol and the council’s emissions and resilience. - The role of local authorities in climate action. - Climate communication. <p>November:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Confirmation of ways of working/ground rules around sharing of information. 2. More detailed briefing session on the council’s current climate objectives / commitments and planned actions, including latest Climate Action Plan. 3. Discussion on deep dives for December, January, February. <p>December, January, February:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 deep dives focused on asking Key Questions identified by the working group at their November session. <p>March:</p> <p>Conclusions and formulation of recommendations ahead of report publication.</p> |
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| Decision-making/pathway for recommendations | Progress / recommendations to be reported to OSMB in first instance, in anticipation that the published report/recommendations are then formally presented to the executive via Cabinet. |
| Any further information that should be included | |