

# Bristol's Mayoral Commissions

Background for Committee Working Group

# Overview of Commissions

# Commission on Race Equality :-

## Context, current objectives & functions

\* Established in 2016 by Mayor to address causes & effects of race & ethnicity discrimination in Bristol.

### Current objectives & functions

Progressing a strategic action plan to be reviewed annually.

Influence City leaders who have significant influence in Bristol.

Uphold the Bristol Race Equality manifesto objectives – challenging & scrutinising all sector organisations.

Report on progress on race equality & the impact of inequality and discrimination.

Increase power, representation & influence of Black & racially minoritised people in the City.

Engaging with policy & strategy developers to ensure race equality is embedded into planning, delivery & outcomes.

Providing independent scrutiny, through collaboration with race focused partnership groups.

Operate at heart of Bristol's communities & institutions to prioritise race equality.

Work collaboratively with a wide range of organisations to deliver key objectives.

# Bristol Women's Commission

## Context, current objectives & functions

- Bristol Women's Commission is a City-wide partnership established to address multifaceted inequality faced by women and girls in the City of Bristol
- There are five task groups: Women's Safety, Women's Safety, Women in Business, Women and the Economy and Women and girls' education. A further Task and Finish group in addition to its five Task Groups worked on a Councillor survey.
- BWC has a cross party membership of Elected Members and has been supported by Cllr Helen Holland in her role as Cabinet member Adult Social Care & Integrated Care System and women's safety.
- The commission has representatives on the Economy and Skills Board and Transport Board and several commissioners are on other boards relating to their own sectors
- Three members of BWC are on the steering group set up by the PCC and Chief Constable of Avon and Somerset Police tackling VAWG on a regional basis including a review of the Force itself.
- Bristol Women's Commission has hosted a full programme of speakers throughout the year and enabled follow up actions to support speakers in their work.

# Disability Equality Commission

## Context, current objectives & functions

- On 21 September 2020 Councillor Asher Craig announced the establishment of the Mayor's Disability Equality Commission in recognition of the inequalities faced by Disabled people in the city, and the negative impact the Covid-19 pandemic is having on Disabled people.
- Alun Davies was appointed chair of the commission in September 2021. Following an open recruitment process 11 Commissioners were appointed in February 2022.
- Commissioners have been appointed to a number of One City boards, including Children and Young people, Culture, Homes and Communities, Transport and Commissioners participate in the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- A successful application was made to Quartet for an additional £5,000 of funding per year for the next two years.
- In August 2022, the Commission successfully applied to the National Lottery for funding to undertake an engagement exercise with Disabled people across the city. The outcome of the engagement will be used to develop the Commission's action plan, this will be launched by the end of May 2023.
- The Commission has engaged with the Council about disproportionate implications of the Clean Air Zone on Disabled people, Adult Social Care budget savings and the delivery of the Bubb report recommendations. They have engaged with WECA about the loss of the Dial-a-ride service to urge them to find another provider.
- The main issue of concern for the Commission are the impact of the cost of living crisis on Disabled people, and potential reductions in services across the private and public sector resulting from the current economic difficulties and recession. The Commission is extremely concerned that the levels of service reductions being anticipated across the private and public sector will result in significant reductions to services on which many Disabled people rely.

## History Commission & Legacy Steering Group

Direction for History Commission is still to be established but it is unlikely to produce another product before the end of this Mayoral term. The Legacy Steering Group is now being hosted by Black South West Network.