

Executive Summary of Agenda Item No. 16

Report title: Bristol Resilience Strategy: Roadmap for a flourishing future

Wards affected: City-wide

Strategic Director: Anna Klonowski, Business Change

Report Author: Sarah Toy, Strategic Resilience Officer (SRO)



Recommendation for the Mayor's approval:

To adopt the Bristol Resilience Strategy as strategic framework for action to future-proof Bristol against future shocks and stresses.

Key background / detail:

a. Purpose of report: To set out the process, framework and recommendations arising from the resilient city work programme.

b. Key details:

1. The Resilience Strategy has been developed over the past 18 months by the Strategic Resilience Officer with funding from the Rockefeller 100 Resilient Cities initiative.
2. The 100RC definition of urban resilience is “the capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses, and systems within a city to survive, adapt and grow no matter what kinds of chronic stresses and acute shocks they experience.” In Bristol we found that this translated better as “flourishing”.
3. The process engaged more than 1600 city stakeholders (20% BCC and 80% external) in a resilience assessment and development of a 50 year strategy to make Bristol more resilient to potential future shocks and stresses.
4. The Strategy has been co-created with support from a voluntary Resilience Sounding Board, comprising 15 BCC and external city leaders, which has given more than 200 hours in-kind.
5. The resilience assessment process found that Bristol faces five resilience challenges or paradoxes which the strategy will need to address to take us towards a resilient future:
 - i. People: Communities are diverse, but inequality compromises cohesion
 - ii. Places: Built environment is “greened”, but not transformed
 - iii. Organisations: Civic society is engaged, but not connected
 - iv. Prosperity and worth: The city is economically successful, but not equally flourishing
 - v. Region to globe: The city is focused on strengthening local self-sufficiency but continues to be dependent on national and global systems
6. The Strategy identified five resilience pillars to describe the outcomes that we can hope to achieve over 50 years: Fair, Sustainable, Liveable, Connected and Agile.
7. The Strategy document sets out a collection of some of the “pattern disrupters” to be delivered by a range of partners and largely within existing resource constraints. These actions challenge business as usual in the city to put us on a more resilient trajectory.
8. The Strategy describes how resilience can be operationalised in Bristol by scaling up five ways of working currently being piloted or integrated into existing work practices: Focusing on assets; Moving upstream; Co-creating; Disrupting; and Learning
9. A governance structure now needs to be agreed to harness cross-agency commitment to building resilience and identify an “owner” to drive the Strategy forward.
10. Options need to be explored to resource an ongoing strategic co-ordination role (SRO funding expires Feb 2017) in order to: leverage access to 100RC Platform Partner free city tools and services; continue to participate in the 100RC global network; and to implement the strategy.

