

The following statements have been submitted – full details are attached:

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>
CS01	Clr Ani Stafford Townsend	Arts & Culture
CS02	Clr Mohammed Makawi	Support for Sudan

**CS01**

**Members Forum statement from Cllr Ani Stafford Townsend  
Subject: Arts and Culture**

Outside of this chamber, I am personally a BECTU member, as I am a milliner for stage & screen, a costume supervisor and a university lecturer.

This action, or lack of action, by the administration is yet another demonstration of the lack of understanding that they hold for the value of arts & culture in our city. Not just economically, but for the mental well-being of our citizens. We also know that culture and arts takes many forms, and all hold huge value for society.

I raised concerns earlier this year when the report to cabinet on the Beacon stated that pre-pandemic, 1,200 people worked in the arts & culture sector in Bristol. No, that's not a typo. Elsewhere, studio spaces and light industrial units are being removed for property development, without replacement. Removing vital infrastructure for the arts. Our sector is already living hand to mouth, having not received the same financial support during covid despite our work, our music, our tv shows, our films supporting the world through the pandemic.

This administration puts money into processes, neglecting those creating the actual work & labour. This administration boasts of the cultural scene, our festivals, our art. Our culture. The administration boasts about big cultural companies moving to Bristol, with no understanding of what brings them here or the feeding streams that creates those companies in the first place.

See also the contempt for questions about the changes to the harbour, another key draw to our city and the evidence base for the changes. My questions have not been permitted. And the promised redacted reports not released despite promises.

Our arts and culture organisations generate £4-£7 for every £1 they cost, but the true value of the arts are much more than economic.

I am truly horrified by the lack of funding support for our sector and what this will mean for us.

I assure you that the Green Party understands the value of arts and culture in every part of society, and to the future of our city. Marvin & Craig, I urge you to support the arts & culture of this city now.

**CS02**

**Members Forum statement from Cllr Mohammed Makawi**

**Subject: Support for Sudan**

On behalf of myself and on behalf of the Sudanese community in Bristol and those coming from the war zone in Sudan, we extend our thanks and gratitude to the Bristol City Council for the facilities they provided to those who were evacuated from the war zone in Sudan, the citizens who hold British nationalities, women, men & children. Our thanks in particular to all the departments of the council concerned with housing, education and health, as well to the administration which is represented by the Mayor of the city, the members, the cabinet, and to the Lord Mayor & Mayor Rees for attending the fund-raising event held for those affected by the war in Sudan. All of this had the greatest impact on the hearts of the members of the Sudanese community.

I hope that Mayor Rees & my fellow councillors will continue their efforts to convey the voice of the community to the Government & to the Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and the Home Secretary Suella Braverman. We should treat the families & relatives of those who have been evacuated like their peers from Ukraine and facilitate procedures for the arrival of their families so they can be reunited with each other.