

# Public Forum

**Date:** Tuesday, 11 July 2023



## Agenda

### 1. Public Statements Received

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Ref No	Name	Title
PS01	Jen Smith	Equity and Inclusion Policy and Strategic Framework 2023–2027
PS02	Sian Ellis Thomas	Member Complaints
PS03	Emma Harvey	Community Asset Transfers
PS04	Suzanne Audrey	Bristol Harbour Community
PS05	Steve Duddell	Support of Golden Motion (Green Party)
PS06	Emma Wales	Broadwalk Development
PS07	WITHDRAWN	
PS08	WITHDRAWN	
PS09	Matthew Loucks	Process/procedures of Development Control A Committee (5th July) – Broadwalk Shopping Centre
PS10	Rachael Fagan	change of process for arts funding
PS11	Gaynor Bridge	Broadwalk redevelopment - reversal of committee decision
PS12	Angela Mayhew	Broadwalk Development
PS13	David Redgewell	public transport
PS14	TAMSIN OLIVER	Broadwalk Development in Knowle
PS15	Trevor Simpson	Broad Walk Redevelopment Planning Committee Decision Reversal 5.7.23
PS16	Totterdown Residents Environmental & Social Action (TRESA) community interest company	The Seven Principles of Public Life
PS17	Doug Honeker	Redevelopment of Broadwalk Shopping Centre in Knowle
PS18	Diane Jenkins	Broadwalk Redevelopment
PS19	Mark Hayward Jenkins	Reversal of Decision against the Broadwalk development

PS20	Alex Oliver	Broadwalk Planning Application 22/03924/P
PS21	Anna Fry	Silver Motion "Valuing the Community Sector"
PS22	Katherine Evans-Linsell	overturning of the Broadwalk planning decision
PS23	Zachary Barker	Broadwalk Shopping Centre Development
PS24	Martin Glancy	Broad Walk Redevelopment Planning Committee Decision Reversal 5 July 23
PS25	Linda Tuff	Broadwalk Development decision
PS26	Helen Evans-Morris	Redcatch Quarter proposal
PS27	James Martin	Planning Committee Decision Reversal Broad W Redevelopment 5.7.23
PS28	Kelly McGrath	Broad Walk Redevelopment Planning Committee Decision Reversal 5.7.23
PS29	Carol MacDonald	Broadwalk Statement for Full Council
PS30	Jim Houlihan	Broadwalk
PS31	Dr Adrian L Davis FFPH on behalf of SHINE Health Integration Team	Golden Motion (Green Party): Adopt a Vision Zero Approach to Eliminate Road Deaths in Bristol
PS32	Alan Morris on behalf of Bristol Walking Alliance	GOLDEN MOTION (GREEN PARTY): Adopt a Vision Zero Approach to Eliminate Road Deaths in Bristol
PS33	James Charles	Broadwalk Shopping Centre
PS34	Derrick Williams	Broadwalk Redevelopment and the reversal of the vote against that redevelopment
PS35	Mike Sadler	Broadwalk Shopping Centre
PS36	Gemma Attwell	Knowle Broadwalk redevelopment planning application
PS37	Lesley Powell	BROADWALK / REDCATCH QUARTER PLANNING TURN
PS38	Laura Chapman	Broadwalk planning application
PS39	Phil Gingell	Development plans for Broadwalk Shopping Centre
PS40	Rob Harnan	council handling of application 22/03924/P Broadwalk redevelopment
PS41	Sandra Morris	Broadwalk Redevelopment
PS42	Michelle Tedder	Broadwalk Planning Application
PS43	Georgia Goodyer	Broadwalk Redevelopment
PS44	Jenni Rogers	Broadwalk Development
PS45	Roger Jenkins	Broadwalk redevelopment
PS46	Ian Beckey Living Easton	Transport
PS47	Avril Baker	Redcatch Quarter
PS48	Rachel Harrison	Redcatch Quarter
PS49	Jen Chequer	Broadwalk Redevelopment
PS50	Sasha Leigh	Broadwalk Redevelopment
PS51	Ben Skingley	Broadwalk Development
PS52	Adblock Bristol	Bond Street South
PS53	Stephen Reynolds	Redcatch Quarter
PS54	Neil Dakeyne	Redcatch Quarter
PS55	Mark Ashdown	SNCI Boundaries



## 2. Public Questions Received

(Pages 75 - 109)

Ref No	Name	Title
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PQ02	Vassili Papastavrou	Otters on Hartcliffe Way
PQ03	Jen Smith	Investigation into Social Media
PQ04	Lynda Rooke	Funding to Cultural Organisations
PQ05	Ian Harris	Cultural Investment
PQ06	Lena Wright	Developer Funds Allocated for RPZ in Windmill Hill
PQ07	Janet Adams	Independent Arts Panel
PQ08	Charlotte Gage	Digital Advertising Screen
PQ09	Haydn Gill	Golden Motion Vision Zero
PQ10	Gerard Cooke	Cultural Investment
PQ11	Naomi Campbell	Cultural Investment
PQ12	Kim Hicks	Independent Arts Panel
PQ13	Cliff Evans	Cultural Investment
PQ14	Clarissa Payne	Trans Inclusion Policy
PQ15	Sian Ellis-Thomas	Member Complaints
PQ16	Claire Gronow	Net Zero Bristol
PQ17	Rick Alden	One City Climate Strategy
PQ18	Greg Cooper	Net Zero Bristol
PQ19	Stephen McNamara	Equity and inclusion Policy
PQ20	Emma Harvey	Community Asset Transfers
PQ21	Wendy Stephenson	Equity and inclusion Policy
PQ22	Rob Bryher	Liveable Neighbourhoods
PQ23	David Redgewell	Buses and Rail
PQ24	Simon Rees	One City Climate Strategy
PQ25	Dan Ackroyd	Social Media
PQ26	Suzanne Audrey	Bristol Harbour Community
PQ27	Rob Dixon	MetroWest Station
PQ28	Dan Ackroyd	YTL Arena
PQ29	Margaret Page	Equity and inclusion policy
PQ30	Mark Ashdown	Tree Preservation Orders
PQ31	Mark Ashdown	SNCI Boundaries

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## **STATEMENT PS 01**

**Submitted by Jen Smith**

### **Title: Equity and Inclusion Policy and Strategic Framework 2023–2027**

Full Council papers asks councillors to note the Bristol City Council Equity and Inclusion Policy and Strategic Framework 2023–2027.

In that framework it says: 'We want people and organisations, in Bristol and beyond, to look to the Council as a model of good practice in addressing equality and inclusion.'

Further it says: 'The Council recognises that harassment can take many forms and can be subtle and insidious in nature. Where we are aware any harassment is motivated by hostility towards Disabled people, or on the grounds of sex, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, then this will be reported and recorded as appropriate. We will always take the iMPact of hate motivated abuse seriously and actively signpost victims to support service.'

I was already going to write a statement before publication of this documents asking why we have not yet had the independent investigation into social media spying. This was democratically voted for in October 2022. Kind of looks a bit like a cover up is going on now.

The fact is, looking to Bristol City Council as a model of 'good practice' is a huge mistake.

In the last 12 months, as a disabled family, I discovered that I was being spied on by Bristol City Council. A subsequent SAR revealed this to be systematic, in real-time and by several Executive Directors as well as staff across various council departments.

I have won an LGO coMPLaint regarding a failure to provide education to one of my children.

I have this week, contacted a solicitor to Judicial Review Bristol City Council for failing to iMPlement the social care provision of an EHCP.

I have had to lodge an appeal for EHCP related issues at Sendist.

I also have at least four other education and equality related actions going on against the council.

It's also worth noting that in this same period, my child has experienced further disruption to their education and the LA has again failed to iMPlement EHCP provision.

A Bristol post 16 education setting which took over £12k of high needs funding to provide an education, refused to respond to a request for reasonable adjustments in Easter this year. Instead of supporting my child to access the learning to which he is legally entitled to and protected under the Equality Act, the council instead took the word of a senior officer at the college to support this education theft.

This is what it is in Bristol. It's education theft. Money taken by greedy settings who then push out pupils rather than provide the education to which they have been funded and the pupil is entitled to. The money is taken, the pupil has their education stolen.

I absolutely believe that whilst some of this comes down to systemic disability discrimination at Bristol City Council, I also believe my family has been the victim of sustained and targeted action by the same council because I have spoken out against Bristol SEND failures.

This makes a mockery of the Equity and Inclusion Policy and Strategic Framework. It's just words. The actions taken by this council loudly states that disabled people don't matter and we will silence them every which way.

It also makes a mockery of everyone in Bristol experiencing discrimination, harassment, profiling and targeting because of a protected characteristic by Bristol City Council.

My SAR shows that things I say in Public Forum draws interest from your legal team. Should the council have any concerns over the claims made in this statement, I am happy to supply a robust collection of fully unredacted emails to be published in support of what I have said.

## **STATEMENT PS 02**

**Submitted by Sian Ellis-Thomas**

**Title: Member Complaints**

We should be able to depend on honesty, integrity and respect from our elected representatives. The current system of accountability for Councillors is just not fit for purpose and must be addressed so that residents, community groups and officers can access a fair system of complaint and redress. It takes courage and considerable emotional labour to embark on a complaint of this kind against a member and it's not something that anyone instigates without being pushed to the very edge.

The commitment by councillors to work with community groups is essential, but those people who do work with us, must be accountable to treat us with honesty, respect and dignity.

## **STATEMENT PS 03**

**Submitted by Emma Harvey**

**Title: Community Asset Transfers**

The Mayor recently made a decision to pause the process of awarding fixed-term funding to the arts and cultural sector, to ensure transparency and independent decision-making. In spite of this, on 4th July 2023, Bristol's Cabinet were comfortable to rubber staMP a decision to dispose of Jacobs Wells Baths (JWB) - an irreplaceable community and heritage asset - without any scrutiny, independent oversight, involvement from councillors or the community, a thorough equalities iMPact assessment, or consideration of its value beyond minimal net financial gain.

The independent report Land for The Many commissioned in 2019 by The Labour Party cites the need for a protective asset class to safeguard against this type of asset stripping in challenging financial times. This decision to list JWB for disposal has severely hindered Trinity's fundraising efforts to save the asset that we outlined in our CAT proposal, as it fails to provide the necessary reassurance to potential funders regarding Bristol City Council's commitment to protecting the site for future public use.

This Community Asset Transfer (CAT) process, which Trinity participated in in good faith, has been marred by inconsistencies, lack of transparency, changes to published criteria, unclear scoring methods, the exclusion of supportive officers and councillors from the CAT Board, even the ability for coMPetitors to modify their proposals after having sight of Trinity's plans.

The lack of scrutiny, oversight and care given to the disposal of JWB - an integral part of the city's cultural and civic infrastructure - is even more problematic in the context of the forthcoming Western Harbour development, which will bring an increase in population density and diversity, without any other available space for existing and new communities to connect and build resilience.

In light of these inconsistencies and the ongoing disregard for community infrastructure, it is essential for councillors in these difficult financial times to raise questions about the decision-making process for irreversible actions concerning assets owned by us. It is crucial to address the concerns surrounding the CAT policy, which is currently being applied inconsistently by a few disconnected officers behind closed doors.

## **STATEMENT PS 04**

**Submitted by Suzanne Audrey**

**Title: Western Harbour**

At the Cabinet meeting 4 July 2023, in the absence of Marvin Rees, Deputy Mayor Craig Cheney read out a statement on the Mayor's behalf in response to a question about Western Harbour. The statement included the following: "The NIMBYS who love to roll around on twitter will never contribute anything other than their negativity to slow this process."

[For the avoidance of doubt, NIMBY is an acronym for 'not in my back yard' and is used to characterize opposition by residents to proposed developments in their local area.]

However, if the Western Harbour development process has been slow, this seems more likely to be related to: problems in the way the project has been communicated; lack of transparency; concerns about public engagement, and; the need to keep 'refreshing' the approach because of lack of trust.

Following the initial controversial consultation focussing on the road network, the Western Harbour Advisory Group (WHAG) minutes of 27 November 2019 indicate:

- We need to rebuild and re-establish trust
- Building trust is key; therefore we need to genuinely listen. We also need to go out and talk to people to clarify misinformation
- It's iMPortant the community feels part of this, that is key

Other WHAG minutes include:

- Western Harbour must benefit the existing communities that surround the area, the aspiration to do so needs to be communicated and collaboration with these communities must shape how these benefits evolve in order to make the most of this opportunity for everyone. [22 Oct 2019]
- [Advisory Group] members commented whilst there is an understanding and need to have citywide engagement we need to ensure we include effective engagement to the immediate communities which will be most iMPacted by the proposals. [25 Nov 2020]
- The Chair commented that WHAG had initially been quite a big group, formed to ensure that public sentiments were effectively channelled into future plans for the area. However, attendance has dropped off in recent months. He noted that it was iMPortant that the group could ensure that the concerns of the public were heard by the Council. [21 Oct 2021]

It is now July 2023, and concerns remain about engagement with the local community and/or the councillors who are elected to represent them. It, therefore, seems ill-advised for the Mayor to suggest: "The NIMBYS who love to roll around on twitter will never contribute anything other than their negativity to slow this process."



The comment was not iMProMPtu: it was written down for the Deputy Mayor to read out in a public meeting on behalf of the Mayor. [It is unclear to me whether it was mis-spoken and the Deputy Mayor had intended to say 'troll around' rather than 'roll around', although either version appears to be an attack on people who are concerned about their local area.]

I hope Mayor Rees will issue an apology and withdraw the comment..

## STATEMENT PS 05

**Submitted by** Steve Duddell

**Title:** Support of Golden Motion (Green Party)

### **Public Statement in support of the GOLDEN MOTION (GREEN PARTY): Adopt a Vision Zero Approach to Eliminate Road Deaths in Bristol**

Prepared by Bristol Road Justice/Bristol Cycling CaMPaign

1. Bristol Road Justice brings together representatives of Bristol Cycling CaMPaign, Cycling UK and RoadPeace to caMPaign for action to reduce the unacceptable and abhorrent number of cyclists killed, injured and intimidated whilst using Bristol's roads to get around the city.
2. We fully support the use of the Safe Systems approach to achieve no fatal or serious injuries on our roads. This strategy should be aligned with the Council's wider aims and existing strategies on climate emergency and air pollution. Substantive actions should promote reduced motor vehicle travel/trips, increase active and sustainable travel (walking, cycling and public transport), and iMProve awareness of safety whilst walking and cycling.
3. There should be greater eMPhasis in conjunction with the police on enforcement of safe behaviours to address speeding, careless driving, drink/drug driving, distraction driving (mobile phone use). This should reflect the hierarchy of responsibility in the recently revised Highway Code where those road users who can cause the greatest risk of harm (vehicle users) bear the greatest responsibility to take care and reduce the danger they pose to others.
4. There should be a greater commitment to the Council's civil enforcement resources robustly to enforce illegal parking behaviour that makes the use of the roads, cycle lanes and the pavements more dangerous for cyclists & pedestrians.
5. At present two-thirds of people in Greater Bristol won't even consider riding a bike. They say the roads are too dangerous. We need
  - the rapid coMPLetion of the city centre cycling network and the city-wide radial routes as described in the West of England LCWIP, both built to the highest standards of the current guidance (LTN 1/20)
  - an extension of the School Streets programme to all schools
  - the installation of bike hangers in neighbourhoods lacking cycle storage at home and secure cycle storage at transport hubs, retail & leisure destinations.
6. With these measures in place all the city's residents will be safer, healthier and have greater access to all their needs. Vision Zero is integral to the success of this urgently necessary work.

Steve Duddell (BS7 8HE) on behalf of Bristol Road Justice and Bristol Cycling CaMPaign

## **STATEMENT PS 06**

**Submitted by Emma Wales**

**Title: Broadwalk Development**

I am writing to you for an explanation. I'm sure you're aware of the utter shock that the decision to overturn the previous unanimous rejection of the redevelopment of Boardwalk has caused within the community here in Knowle.

As a community we were told this meeting was a formality, there was no need for us to attend and make our statements, and of course that the proposed development was fundamentally flawed.

While we all recognise the need for redevelopment of the shopping centre, and more housing within the area, the decision seems to have been overturned on the basis that the developers 'might' provide more community housing.

Could you provide an explanation as to why the other flaws expressed in the original meeting - the density, the single aspect housing, the iMPact on so many houses in the area in terms of light, the lack of parking, not to mention the lack of fundamental infrastructure to serve the current community, never mind the much increased population this development would bring – are no longer an issue?

I'm sure this will not be the only statement you receive on this matter – as a community we are quite siMPly appalled that this decision has taken place, a mere month after the unanimous rejection of the plan.

Knowle and it's residents deserve better. We deserve answers. And we deserve to be able to trust our democratic process and council to deliver. Unfortunately, this decision shatters our confidence in you as our representatives.

**STATEMENT PS 07**

WITHDRAWN

**STATEMENT PS 08**

WITHDRAWN

## **STATEMENT PS 09**

**Submitted by Matthew Loucks**

**Title: Process/procedures of Development Control A Committee (5th July) – Broadwalk Shopping Centre**

I am somewhat bemused by the outcome of the Development Control A Committee on the 5th July 2023, where there was another vote on the plans for the Broadwalk Shopping centre.

Personally, I am open to development at Broadwalk and supported the previous application. But, having watched the recording of the Meeting of 31st May, I too was convinced that these latest outline plans were unsuitable for the surrounding area and left many questions about density and affordability.

Procedurally, I am confused as to how, after a vote by Councillors on the 31st May (which was unanimously against granting outline planning permission), that the minds of 5 Councillors have now changed. Having watched the recording of the meeting on the 5th July, I can see no material new information offered to the committee (bar points of clarification and the 'promise' of more affordable housing, still well below guidelines). I am confused, therefore, as to how an agenda item of ratifying the wording for outline planning permission refusal, could lead to additional representations and a vote overturning the original decision? One could wonder if there has been some interference with the committee, beyond the scrutiny of the public, to convince Councillors to change their minds (be this party-political, or the solicitation by big business behind the scenes).

I question whether this decision-making is therefore fully transparent, and whether this Full Council is confident that Committee protocol and procedures in this case were correctly followed? As a confused member of the public, this whole process has left me feeling quite disengaged by the process of local government.

## **STATEMENT PS 10**

**Submitted by Rachel Fagan**

**Title: change of process for arts funding**

Equity, creative workers, sister unions, green city councillors and members of the public stood on college green together on the 6th of July 2022 with many people expressing their anger and desperation at the delay in funding decisions for arts organisations. A letter was handed in to the Mayor Marvin Rees demanding that the funding to arts organisations is not delayed and that cuts are off the table. Enough is enough.

There has been no explanation to why the change of process for arts funding has occurred, which has led to these delays and no explanation of who this independent panel will be and how they will operate, even when organisations or artists will be able to apply. Currently there is interim funding for a handful of coMPanies, most are left high and dry, and no new applications being funded in the interim period.

We heard today from Dragon Bird theatre coMPany that this lack of timely decision making will iMPact them this Autumn as without the funding from the Bristol City Council they will no longer be able to subsidise their tickets to make them affordable for all parents. So, the 1000's of 0 - 5-year-olds and their parents who enjoyed their shows will no longer be able to and they are going to have to make job cuts and think about their future.

This is the reality of the Mayor's decision; it places creative workers jobs at risk and is damaging the creative fabric of the city for all Bristol inhabitants. The council has a decision to make. Are they going to let this financially ruinous decision for all the arts organisations across the city stand? Or are they going to inspect why these decisions have been delayed and why and who this new independent panel will be?

Most iMPortantly the council should think about when these delayed announcements will be made and who will be making them and shoulder the responsibility for them. The Mayor leaves office in May 2024 only two months after these decisions will be announced or will they be delayed again? They have been delayed twice since October 2022. This is not how you support the arts. The creative industries are the third largest sector behind finance and real estate. For every £1 invested into the creative industries you get £4 - £7 back into the wider economy of this city.

I ask you as Bristol Resident, parent to two children and a creative worker to ask the Mayor to answer the questions in the letter we handed in to him. Ask him why there has been a delay and who will be announcing the new funding decisions in the future and when will that happen?

Ask yourself what kind of city you want to live in? This decision to delay affects; The Bristol Old Vic, Tobacco Factory, Travelling Light, Watershed, Dragon Bird Theatre CoMPany, Little Lockleaze Legends, Ebb and Flow (part of the Harbour festival), Spike Island, Asian Arts Agency, acta and Knowle west media centre, Ciromedia, Paraorchestra, St Pauls Carnival,

Bristol festival and Bristol Pride to name but a few. And many of them are now in a perilous situation without arts funding.

The full list can be found here:

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/residents/museums-parks-sports-and-culture/arts-culture-and-events/arts-and-culture-funding>



## **STATEMENT PS 11**

**Submitted by Gaynor Bridge**

**Title: Broadwalk redevelopment - reversal of committee decision**

Like many other people in Knowle, I was shocked and distressed to hear that the unanimous decision of Planning Committee A to refuse permission for the development at Broadwalk, Knowle had been overturned at a meeting which we were advised was just a formality.

The application was refused on the grounds that the development was too high and too dense, with many of the tiny one bed flats having only a single aspect, and the very small percentage of affordable housing in the plan

All that has changed is that the developers have 'committed to work with the council to secure a grant from Homes England to increase the affordable homes' (quote from Savills). In other words, the developers would like taxpayers' money to, possibly, increase the number of affordable homes without decreasing their profits. There is no guarantee that this will happen.

As a local resident and a taxpayer I would like to register my strong objection to this outcome and to ask how on earth this is a democratic result?

**STATEMENT PS 12**

**Submitted by Angela Mayhew**

**Title: Broadwalk Development**

Am utterly appalled at the overturning of the Broadwalk planning decision at the Dev committee on the 5th July and wish to register my dissatisfaction with this process.

Please explain this coMPlete U-turn in attitude.

## STATEMENT PS 13

**Submitted by David Redgewell**

**Title: Full council 11th July 2023 public transport and the governance review of the city and county of Bristol committee scheme and west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council bus service improvement plan and metro west.**

Now that secretary of state for transport mark HARPER mp and local Gloucestershire mp has allowed the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority under Mayor Dan Norris and Council Hannah young North Somerset council.

To spend the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council bus service improvement plan money on Support bus services following Debate in the House of commons by Kerry McCartney mp with Buses and coaches minister Richard Horton mp

And Luke Hall mp for Thornbury and Yate secretary of state for Transport mark HARPER mp.

We would like to see the city and county of Bristol council and mayor Marvin Rees and councillor Don Alexander Transport executive Bristol city council and chair of the western gateway transport Board.

Work with Banes council South Gloucestershire council and North Somerset council to restore the support bus Network.

The following bus routes need urgent restoration service 5 Bristol city centre st Pauls st werburges Eastville park Stapleton Broomhill Fishpond oidbury court Bromley heath winterbourne.

Stagecoach west contracted

Service 525 Could be extended yate North Yate bus station Westerleight puckchurch Emerson green to Downend

Fishponds oidbury court Fishponds Broomhill Stapleton Eastville Tesco .

Connections with service 25 Southmead hospital bus station Horfield Eastville park st werburges st Paul Bristol city centre.

Improvement on bus service 25 Bristol city centre st Paul st werburges Eastville park Horfield Southmead hospital bus station.

Frequentice and Monday to Friday service Saturday and Sunday service.

505 Southmead hospital bus station Horfield Clifton Down station The Downs Clifton village, Long Ashton park and ride extension to Ashton vale estate under the railway bridge Salisbury and back to the park and Ride site.

Connections with metro bus to and From Bristol city centre via Bristol Temple meads station.

Service 36 Pay first group plc money to extend service 36 Bristol city centre to Barton hill st Anne park Bristlington knowle Hengrove whitchurch estate and Hartcliffe.

Via Hungerford road and Bristlington park and ride every hour .

Or talk to Abus about a south Bristol llink

Extend stagecoach west buses service 10 11 Avonmouth Dock shirehampton Westbury on Trym Southmead hospital to uwe bus station Bristol parkway Bradley stoke Aztec west Hortham Alverston Thornbury every 2 hours to Thornbury hourly Southmead hospital to Bristol parkway.

Stagecoach west buses.

Service 17 Southmead hospital bus station to Fishpond staple hill kingswood and keynsham.

Add evening service.

672 Bristol bus station to the chew valley via South Bristol and Blagdon extend to cheddar in conjunction with Somerset council.

Reinstate service 179 Bath bus and coach stations to Tunley Timbury Paulton,Midsomer Norton Tesco Farrington Gurney chewton mendip and wells bus station every 2 hours with Somerset council

Connections 424 414 Frome To wridlington Radstock midsomer Norton paulton service to replace service 82 .

Connections with 179 to Wells bus and coach station at midsomer Norton Tesco.

126 reinstated between wells bus and coach stations Westbury sub mendip Draycott cheddar Axbridge winscombe Banwell locking Weston bus and coach station every 2 hours .

X5 Portishead clevedon Weston super mare bus and coach stations.

Via yatton railway station.

First group plc west of England buses.

85,84 Operate wotton under edge Charfield wickwar chipping sodbury yate bus station yate railway station yate park and ride with connections to Bristol city centre y1 train And Y6 to Southmead hospital.

In partnership with Gloucestershire county council.

Retain service

Service 622

Cribbs causeway bus station to Bristol zoo Olverton Alverston Thornbury yate bus station.

Talk to first about extension to Bristol zoo on service 1 and 2 .

Talk to Gloucester council about extension of service 60 Dursey may lane cam wotton under edge charfield Thornbury to Alverston Olverton Cribbs causeway bus station.

Stagecoach west.

62 Dursey may lane cam Berkley sharpness Thornbury Alverston Olverton to cribbs causeway bus station.

Applegate coaches

Provide and 2 hourly yate bus station Thornbury link with big lemon buses.

And cribbs causeway if 62 60 option not possible.

Extension of service Bristol city centre to Downend Bromley heath to winterbourne every 2 hours with stagecoach west. 562 .

The rest of the bus Network I would

Use Demand responsive bus services westlink to bus interchanges and railway stations.

At Bristol parkway Yate bus station yate railway station park and ride.

Filton Abbey wood station Bristol parkway uwe bus station Patchway station cribbs causeway bus station and Bristol Southmead hospital bus station.

To link with bus and Train service.

To the Eastgate centre in Bristol for bus connections and Stapleton road station.

Allow west link to pick up on the Eastgate centre Eastville Easton The Dings number 506 route to Bristol Temple meads for Railway and bus links.

Westlink buses to connection at Bristol Temple meads station Bedminster station Parson street Long Ashton park and ride and Bristlington park and ride via Hungerford road.

Review with first group plc west of England buses stagecoach group west and Transpora buses to Southmead hospital bus station with NHS North Bristol as request by the Trust .

And buses service to Bristol Royal infirmary and Weston super mare hospital and south Bristol hospital.

I would not reinstated other support bus service but work to looking at west link Demand responsive bus services.

Including the 91 route in South Bristol.

On coach services

We welcome the western gateway transport Board and Peninsula transport Board coach and Express bus study

With National Express coaches

Megabus coaches Falcon coaches Scottish city link.

Flexibus coaches.

We would like to see improvement at Bond street coach stands Bristol

New waiting shelters for Flixbus Berry coaches

And megabus coaches.

In Bristol bus and coach station

Including the removal of Environment enforcement officers to fine passenger dropping litter or leaving cups due to no litter Bins due to transect security.

Bath spa bus and coach stations.

Uwe bus and coach stations.

Weston super mare bus and coach stations.

On Ferry service.

We should work with Bristol ferry boat company to run from Bristol Harbour from Hotwells city centre Bristol Temple meads to Natham and st Anne's park.

Metro west railway Network.

Tickets office closures

West of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council

Mayor Dan Norris.

And the Regions mps

With the Department for transport ordering under section 17 of 1993 railway act and 2017 Transport act

The closure of all booking offices in England.

By instructing First group plc to closes the ticket office on Great western railway company and the Ticket office at Bristol Temple meads station run by Network rail western

We would request Bristol city council Banes, South Gloucestershire council and North Somerset council and West of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council

Transport Authority.

Western gateway Transport Board

Metro west railway

That the councils and The metro mayor Dan Norris and the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority.

And western gateway transport Board.

Object to the closure of Booking office for passenger with reduced mobility and Assist travel at the following metro west Network railway stations

Bristol Temple meads.

Keynsham oidfiled park Bath spa Bradford on Avon ,Trowbridge Westbury Frome / warminster.

Filton Abbey wood Bristol parkway yate Gloucester central Cheltenham spa.

Nalisea and Backwell yatton for clevedon worle parkway Weston super mare Bridgwater and Taunton.

With only 3 weeks public consultation by the Department for transport and the Railway company First group plc Great western railway company who operators the metro west railway Network.

These proposals effect some of the most valuable people in society and people with disabilities oider people

Blind and portly sighted people.

With any equilities impacts assessments

Under the equilities act 2010 and the disability act.

Many tickets for integrated journeys by bus train and ferry can not be purchased

From tickets machine and

50 % wheelchair access is only available

At present in booking offices.

As are tickets to Ireland/ Northern Ireland tickets across Europe by ferry and the Tunnel isles of man and the channel islands.



We would ask Bristol city council Banes South Gloucestershire council and North Somerset council to work with mayor Dan Norris and the western gateway transport Board and Peninsula transport Board and object to the Department for transport proposals to first group plc western railway company and Transport focus and the secretary of state for transport mark HARPER mp. and Railway minister hue merriman mp.

On the governance review we welcome the committee system but are concerned that Transport committee does not undermine the setting up of west of England mayoral combined transport Authority with North Somerset council as a full member.

As a region transport Authority like the west Midlands combined transport Authority and Greater Manchester combined transport Authority.

With mayor Andy street and Andy Burnham.

To run buses through enhanced quality partnership schemes Future franchising and municipal bus operators.

Metro west railway Network.

Coach stations and interchanges.

Bus shelters interchanges.

Tickets schemes.

Ferry services

Light rail system.

Major Highways

Park and ride facilities.

And the transfer of Transport staff to the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority.

Urgently from Bristol city council Banes South Gloucestershire council and future North Somerset council.

With precepting powers for the metro mayor

Western gateway partnership

Or western gateway transport Board

We must not undermine the Region transport Authority or Regional planning. Authority.

It should be noted that Transport focus

Have a Board meeting on 19th july 2023

In the watershed in Bristol

09 00 to 1pm .

David Redgewell South west transport Network Railfuture Severnside.

Bristol disabled equilities forum Trustee

South Gloucester disability equilities forum trustee

## **STATEMENT PS 14**

**Submitted by Tamsin Oliver**

**Title: Broadwalk Development in Knowle**

I am completely bewildered and furious that 4 committee members changed their minds and the above planning application has now been approved.

This feels very sneaky, to do this out of the public eye, after the original vote. It feels like a complete subversion of democracy.

I was disappointed that the proposed plan has no regard for community or quality of life, focusing solely on profit margins. I am even more horrified that

this underhand change has occurred in an apparent democratic country using loop holes in the law and without a shred of decency.

I am proud of where I live, in Knowle, and of Bristol. Give us Bristolians the respect we deserve.

## **STATEMENT PS 15**

**Submitted by Trevor Simpson**

**Title: Broad Walk Redevelopment Planning Committee Decision Reversal 5.7.23**

To date I have been passive in respect of the proposed redevelopment being sceptical about the process. My faith in democracy was restored when the Planning Committee originally unanimously rejected the plans. That faith has been swiftly shattered by the reversal of the decision at the above meeting. There is no logic to the change of decision other than some nebulous suggestion there might be more affordable housing available conjured up by the developers. Worst of all is the deceit that was created through the media that the above meeting would be a rubber stamping of the original decision. Guess what? The developers turn up en masse with their rabbit from the hat while the objectors had naively swallowed the rubber-stamping deception and we're not in attendance. In this process the electors of Knowle have been failed by our own councillors and now those on the Planning Committee including other south Bristol based members. And we still won't have a decent local supermarket. I am depressed about local democracy in our city as a consequence of this appalling decision.

## **STATEMENT PS 16**

**Submitted by Totterdown Residents Environmental & Social Action (TRESA) community interest company**

### **Title: The Seven Principles of Public Life**

TRESA would like to remind the Mayor, cabinet members and councillors, about the Seven Principles of Public Life. These apply to anyone who works as a public office-holder. This includes all of our elected representatives and all people appointed to work in local government. After observing the Development Control A Committee meeting that took place on 5th July 2023, we have serious concerns that these principles are not being consistently upheld by some members and officers of Bristol City Council.

1. Selflessness. Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest.
2. Integrity. Holders of public office must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships.
3. Objectivity. Holders of public office must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias.
4. Accountability. Holders of public office are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this.
5. Openness. Holders of public office should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing.
6. Honesty. Holders of public office should be truthful.
7. Leadership. Holders of public office should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour and treat others with respect. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs.

## **STATEMENT PS 17**

**Submitted by Doug Honeker**

**Title: Redevelopment of Broadwalk Shopping Centre in Knowle**

I write regarding the absolute disgrace that was last night's meeting regards the redevelopment of Broadwalk Shopping Centre in Knowle.

The community was assured time and again that the meeting was purely to ratify the wording of the rejection. As such, we were almost encouraged not to attend; yet the developers and pro-development local councillors were given the chance to swing the vote.

The application has not changed (apart from a "possible, might, maybe increase the level of affordable units" if someone else pays for them. The council planning policies have not changed. The height of the buildings has not changed. The hyper-density has not changed. What exactly has changed to make an application deemed as unsatisfactory last month, satisfactory last night? Nothing!

This is a completely undemocratic decision and extremely underhanded from development committee A, the developers, and Bristol City Council as a whole.

Can we expect to see the committee's reasoning? I doubt it.

All of the reasons for rejection still exist. I can only assume the labour and Tory councillors were "persuaded" by some other means?

Please let me know how I make a formal complaint.

**STATEMENT PS 18**

**Submitted by Diane Jenkins**

**Title: Broadwalk Redevelopment**

I am deeply concerned at the process and way in which the unanimous decision of the original committee to refuse redevelopment proposals has been reversed. The KNPG were assured that the meeting of committee A was a formality. I am sure you are familiar with the usual process. I understand 6 developers and a Cllr Hopkins were at the meeting. The reversal of the decision casts a dark shadow on the democratic process and the openness and transparency of the council. We all sometimes disagree with decisions but the way in which they are handled is imperative to a fair and equitable process. Sadly lacking in this instance.

## **STATEMENT PS 19**

**Submitted by Mark Hayward Jenkins**

**Title: Reversal of Decision against the Broadwalk development**

I was thinking of writing in protest against the recent astonishing reversal of your unanimous decision against the Broadwalk development but after consideration I think , rather, that is very brave of you ! putting your names so effectively to something so disastrous. Why, you've now chosen to own the decision and the ongoing disaster entirely!

Putting developers ahead of the people of Knowle and having that abrogation memorialised in a stark 12 story testament and reminder to the slipperiness of your chicanery and the shabbiest of political stitch ups ? Remarkable!

Why let Councillors Hopkins take all the glory you must have thought yourselves. Outstanding.



## **STATEMENT PS 20**

**Submitted by Alex Oliver**

**Title: Broadwalk Planning Application 22/03924/P**

This correspondence is in relation to the Broadwalk Planning Application 22/03924/P. I wish this to be included as a statement for the next Full Council Meeting, taking place at 6pm on Tuesday 11th July 2023. I intend to attend this meeting next week.

I am utterly appalled and shocked at the events that took place on 5th July 2023 during the Development Control A Committee planning meeting. I believe this makes a mockery of the democratic processes that took place at the previous planning meeting on 31st May 2023, where there was a unanimous decision to reject the aforementioned proposal.

This decision was primarily due to the hyperdensity of the proposed structures, which is well above Council recommended levels and national guidelines, in addition to the lack of affordable housing provision. The details in the application have not been changed; it is still hyperdense, it is still providing barely any affordable homes, and it is still not fitting within the fabric of the local community. The hyperdensity was not even discussed by the committee members, which is astounding as it was the key reason for why it was rejected in the first place. I do not understand how the votes of four members of the committee can sway so markedly despite there being no material change to the proposal. The only significant difference between now and then is that the Council's planning officers recommended the refusal of the application, rather than approve.

Community representatives were assured that the discussion of the Broadwalk proposal was a formality to ratify the decision made at the previous meeting, and was following due process. However, it is clear now there was a lack of transparency to this and the information was not clearly articulated to those who oppose the development in its current light, of which I am one. The agenda and notes do not clearly indicate that a full reconsideration of this case was an item of discussion. Even councillors on the committee who were present and opposed the development were not aware this was to be the case.

The abrupt change in the views of multiple committee members highlights concerns around transparency, and it is not clear to myself or others within the local community whether new information was available. The councillors who changed their votes did not provide sufficient information as to why they changed their mind and it is vital to understand this further. Their decisions have clearly been made without consideration of the views of the local community and its residents.

This reversal decision is both a shock to both the Knowle constituents as well as the wider Bristol community. It is also significantly damaging to the reputation of the Council and the trust that its constituents have within local policies, processes and politicians.

A full and detailed explanation of this reversal is wholly necessary for the residents who call Knowle home. I implore the Council to discuss this at length publicly during the next full Council meeting, at which I am planning to attend, and provide transparent, open and

honest information to the Bristol public. Otherwise, I fear that this will further deteriorate the standing of our elected representatives, and the reputation of the Council and our local democratic processes will fall further into disrepute.

## **STATEMENT PS 21**

**Submitted by Anna Fry**

**Title: Silver Motion “Valuing the Community Sector”**

I would like to read a statement in person at the full council meeting public forum on 11th July 2023. Please find my statement in full below;

I give the following statement about the Silver Motion “Valuing the Community Sector”.

Speaking frankly, this is a very odd motion. It proposes absolutely nothing useful for the Community Groups the proposing Councillor claims to support.

It is likely that some of the community groups view the motion’s praise for them with mixed emotions. After all the proposer has a history of claiming the credit for much of the hard work carried out by these community groups.

This motion appears to be a shameless party propaganda effort on the Knowle Community Party designed to distract from complaints made against the proposer.

Frankly, I believe the groups deserve a lot better from local elected representative.

## **STATEMENT PS 22**

**Submitted by Wendy Coe**

**Submitted by Katherine Evans-Linsell**

**Title: overturning of the Broadwalk planning decision**

I am utterly appalled at the undemocratic overturning of the Broadwalk planning decision at the Dev committee on 5th July and wish to register my dissatisfaction with this process.

I would like some public explanation at both Councillor and council level for this rather abrupt change in attitude.

The proposal was originally rejected due to density and the number of single aspect dwellings. As far as I am aware this has not changed and the only thing that appears to have changed is a possible commitment to slightly more "affordable housing" with no guarantee of this.

This shows the whole council administration in an incredibly poor light and I am disappointed and frustrated at such poor and undemocratic behaviour. We now need absolute transparency in this matter and a full public explanation. Any additional information or changes to the development plans should have been made public as this all seems incredibly underhand.

I am also appalled that members of the public were informed that this meeting was only a formality.

## **STATEMENT PS 23**

**Submitted by Zachary Barker**

**Title: Broadwalk Shopping Centre Development**

Bristol City Council's Development Committee's U-turn on the decision to allow the Broadwalk Shopping Centre Development to go ahead was a great betrayal of the people of Knowle.

The main perpetrators of this betrayal were the Labour councillors who inexplicably changed their votes to overturn a unanimous decision to reject this development. A rejection which was celebrated by many residents and community activists in Knowle.

These same residents and activists were misled by at least one Council Officer who assured them that the meeting at which this took place was nothing more than a formality. Many of them woke up the next morning to find that everything they had worked for had overturned overnight.

Bristol Labour, the Knowle Community Party and responsible Council Officers should take note. The people of Knowle will not stand for this farce. Knowle Liberal Democrats stands with them

## **STATEMENT PS 24**

**Submitted by Martin Glancy**

**Title: Broad Walk Redevelopment Planning Committee Decision Reversal 5 July 23**

I believe the decision of the planning committee to reverse its decision about the Broadwalk redevelopment is grossly unfair.

Reading the guidance from the Local Government Association called "Probity in planning", leads me to think that a number of breaches of this code have occurred.

The way this decision was taken is not fair, not transparent and will lead people to think that the committee was not impartial.

Whatever you think about the merits of this particular development, this type of decision making will lead to a lack of confidence in the planning committee and the council overall.

I urge full council to return this decision to the planning committee and instruct them to allow local people to be involved in the meeting where this decision is being retaken.

In particular, I'm concerned that the communications from a planning officer were misleading. It would appear that people were told the meeting was nothing more than an administrative meeting to clarify the reasons for the refusal. This is clearly not the case.

Full council has the opportunity to redeem its reputation now. Failure to do so will add to the impression that something very fishy is going on.

## **STATEMENT PS 25**

**Submitted by Jean and Linda Tuff**

**Title: Broadwalk Development decision**

We would be very grateful if you could explain publicly why on 5th July the Councillors of Development Control Committee A so suddenly changed their minds to overturn the Broadwalk shopping centre planning permission and voted to allow a hyper-dense Broadwalk development, that contravenes many of the Council's own policies. Fewer than 6 weeks ago the same committee unanimously rejected permission.

The proposal was originally rejected due to density and the number of single-aspect dwellings. As far as we are aware, the density and aspect of the development remains completely unchanged; the only thing that appears to have changed is a possible commitment to an increase of 2.8% more "affordable housing", equating to a provision of around 23 extra "affordable homes" in a massive development of 850.

The community of south Bristol would like full transparency, with a public explanation as to how this hastily put-together affordable housing proposal, can now dismiss the numerous concerns on which the Broadwalk development was so recently unanimously refused.

## **STATEMENT PS 26**

**Submitted by Helen Evans-Morris**

**Title: Redcatch Quarter proposal**

I am writing to express my anger, frustration, and frankly, disbelief at the planning committee's decision to approve the Redcatch Quarter proposal on Tuesday 5th July. This decision and the actions of Development Committee A flies in the face of democracy and makes a mockery of the entire planning process that has gone on to date.

Over the last couple of years, residents of Knowle have worked tirelessly to try and get the best outcome for its current and future residents, diligently following BCC's own planning process to a tee, at the expense of personal time and energy, in order to keep up with a developer who has incomparable resources at their disposal.

The unanimous decision to reject the Redcatch Quarter proposal in May was a huge win for the residents of Knowle and gave hope to us and other groups across the city that if you persevere and follow the democratic process it is possible to make change. However, in the space of one meeting, a few councillors were able to completely extinguish the few remaining embers of trust local people have in local democracy.

Whether you agree, with the Redcatch proposal, or not, any self-respecting and principled councillor can see that this was an underhand manoeuvre that brings the whole of BCC's ethical standards into disrepute.

4 councillors "miraculously" changed their minds on the day and Labour just happened to coincidentally vote all of the same way.

All of the developers' cohort showed up to speak, despite local groups being reassured that this was a formality and simply ratification of the decision, therefore not attending ourselves.

And ultimately, nothing has materially changed. The grounds these plans were rejected on remain the same – they are still too high, too dense and many provide an appallingly low level of light due to their single aspect and north-facing nature. Whilst the promise of increased affordable housing (paid for by the tax-payer to subsidise a developer?!) is "likely, but no guaranteed".

I urge Bristol City Councillor to take a long, hard look at what happened here. People can try and justify their actions with as many loopholes as they want but, we all see this for what it is and BCC should be ashamed.



## **STATEMENT PS 27**

**Submitted by James martin**

**Title: Planning Committee Decision Reversal Broad Walk Redevelopment 5.7.23**

I'm concerned that the recent decision made by the council to overturn the earlier decision to deny planning permission for the redevelopment of the Broadwalk shopping centre does not have the interests of the community at heart appears to have undemocratic decision making at its centre.

Nothing has changed to meaningfully be able to deny that this development is too high density. There isn't the infrastructure in place to cope with 850 new homes and all the extra people who will be crammed into that small an area; schooling, public transport, GP surgeries, supermarkets, green space, community spaces, parking, are already in short supply even before these homes are built.

Moreover, the lack of affordable housing remains woefully low. The majority of the flats that are planned appear small, with limited aspect, betraying that profit motive of the redevelopment and the absence of a community or environment-minded approach.

The logic of the decision reversal is so completely absent that it is difficult not to conclude that there are undemocratic processes at play here.

It is my belief that this decision reversal needs to be halted and reviewed.

**STATEMENT PS 28**

**Submitted by Kelly McGrath**

**Title: Broad Walk Redevelopment Planning Committee Decision Reversal 5.7.23**

I hope that there will be a full investigation into the abrupt and somewhat suspicious, reversal of the planning decision relating to the redevelopment of the Broadwalk Shopping Centre.

I urge you to ensure that those who have voted to allow the development to go ahead have not been unduly influenced by third parties and that due democratic process has been followed.

The integrity of the council is certainly being called into question by the community of Knowle.

## **STATEMENT PS 29**

**Submitted by Carol MacDonald**

**Title: Broadwalk Statement for Full Council**

I am utterly appalled overturning of the Broadwalk planning decision at the Dev committee on 5th July. I wish to register my dissatisfaction with the way this has happened. as I understand it the proposal was originally unanimously rejected because of the high density of it. Nothing about this had been addressed by July 5th so there seems to be no justification for the sudden change of decision.

I gather that Community representatives were assured this meeting was just a formality so did not attend. This seems totally undemocratic.

I would like some public explanation at both Councillor and council level for this rather abrupt change in attitude and the way it was

## **STATEMENT PS 30**

**Submitted by Jim Houlihan**

**Title: Broadwalk Planning Application 22/03924/P**

I have been a resident of Totterdown and Knowle for over 35 years. I was bewildered to hear of the reversal of Planning Committee A's decision in the above matter yesterday.

The unanimous decision of 31st May rejected the application on grounds of density and height. In short, the Committee, in line with the will and wisdom of the majority of local residents, had concluded that the proposed development of Broadwalk would have a significant detrimental impact on the local community. Notably it was found that the application did not meet the Core Strategy Policy BCS20.

The abrupt change in the views of several committee members raises serious concerns about transparency and whether new information that was not available in the public consultation phase was considered.

Firstly, in view of this, I request that:

1. Under the Freedom of Information Act all information relating to this case that was exchanged between BBC and the Developers is sent to me and/or Knowle Neighbourhood Planning Group/Broadwalk Redevelopment Community Group in line with the recommended timescale.
2. The reasons behind the votes of the members who changed their minds. It is clearly natural and in accordance with democracy to know what it was that changed minds?
3. In view of the above that the progress of this application is suspended until the residents of Knowle, as individuals and as members of the local groups, have had a reasonable opportunity to consider the information I have requested under 1 and 2 above.

Thirdly, local committee representatives were informed by Council officials that the meeting of 5 July was an administrative formality and not a full reconsideration of the case. The agenda and notes do not indicate that a full reconsideration of this case was an item; there is nothing in the papers to indicate it was the subject of an Appeal by developers.

By any definition of democracy, legal, policy and social, this outcome is perverse and damaging, not only for the residents of Knowle but also for the wider Bristol community and its trust in the Council. I request an immediate review of the process, and until that has been completed and residents have had the reasonable opportunity to make their submissions that the matter is suspended.

I recognise that some development of Broadwalk would be welcome -but that needs to be holistic and cohesive with local community needs, both for existing and incoming residents.

I request that this letter is made available to the next full Council Public Forum (I am away on that day).

## **STATEMENT PS 31**

**Submitted by Dr Adrian L Davis FFPH on behalf of SHINE Health Integration Team**

**Title: Golden Motion (Green Party): Adopt a Vision Zero Approach to Eliminate Road Deaths in Bristol**

The SHINE Health Integration Team would like to submit the statement below in support of the Golden Motion (Green Party): Adopt a Vision Zero Approach to Eliminate Road Deaths in Bristol.

In 2015 Bristol City Council produced one of the first UK Plans to introduce a Road Safety Safe Systems Plan (a Vision Zero) for the city. Members of Bristol Health Partners SHINE Health Integration Team have been working in partnership with Council officers, the Cabinet Member for Transport, as well as with colleagues from the Acute Trauma Teams in Bristol's hospitals to help advance work to achieve zero deaths and life-changing injuries on Bristol roads. In 2022 we conducted a review of best practice Best Practice lessons from cities implementing Vision Zero and Safe Systems Road Safety ([bristolhealthpartners.org.uk](http://bristolhealthpartners.org.uk)) to help support progress towards this goal.

A motion to be considered by Full Council, is to set a Vision Zero target for road deaths and serious injuries for 2030. This will require strengthening partnerships and collaborations across the city including with residents. We welcome this Motion and ask the members of the Council to consider the following: when asked the question 'What would be an acceptable number of your family and friends to die in road traffic collisions each year?', the answer is always 'zero' or 'none'. So, every family should be free from the fear of a loss of a family member from what are avoidable events – road traffic collisions. This means that the only ethical response has to be that we accept nothing less than zero for all citizens. Please support the Motion.

## **STATEMENT PS 32**

**Submitted by Alan Morris on behalf of Bristol Walking Alliance**

**Title: GOLDEN MOTION (GREEN PARTY): Adopt a Vision Zero Approach to Eliminate Road Deaths in Bristol**

Bristol Walking Alliance (BWA) supports the motion to adopt a Vision Zero approach to eliminate road deaths in Bristol.

BWA is a consortium of organisations and individuals campaigning to improve the walking environment. We want to create an environment for pedestrians that is welcoming, safe, and convenient for all. When we use the term ‘walking’ we include those who use wheelchairs, mobility scooters or other aids.

Our ‘50 Ways to Better Walking’ document is based on the walking-related actions outlined in Bristol Transport Strategy, Bristol City Council 2019. This includes an action to “make walking safe”.

Specifically relevant to Vision Zero, we advocate for the following:

- Monitor pedestrian movements with the aim of improving the provision, standard and safety of pedestrian routes
- Segregate pedestrian spaces from all faster moving vehicles
- Prioritise the provision of pedestrian crossings to neighbourhood facilities (e.g. parks, schools, shops) and across major roads
- Make it easy for pedestrians to report collisions, including those involving bicycles and electric scooters as well as motor vehicles, and produce annual summaries

Other measures we propose within 50 Ways to Better Walking are also relevant to pedestrian safety and Vision Zero.

The Council adopted “A Safe Systems Approach to Road Safety in Bristol - A 21st Century Approach: A Ten Year Plan 2015-2024”. (see <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/residents/streets-travel/transport-plans-and-projects/road-safety-plans>.) We support the renewal of a Vision Zero approach in Bristol and would be pleased to contribute to the proposed inquiry day along with other stakeholders.

## **STATEMENT PS 33**

**Submitted by James Charles**

**Title: Broadwalk Shopping Centre**

I wanted to take this opportunity to make a statement to full council regarding my disappointment in the shocking u-turn made by Councillors Eddy, Hulme, Hussain, and Jackson, and the abstain from voting by Councillor Geater, to approve the Broadwalk Shopping Centre redevelopment proposal in the Development Control A Committee meeting on Wednesday 5th July 2023, following all members having unanimously rejected the proposal, which hasn't changed, in the Development Control A Committee meeting on Wednesday 31st May 2023.

I do not understand why a second vote was held on the proposals, after they had been unanimously rejected in the Development Control A Committee meeting on Wednesday 31st May 2023.

The proposed redevelopment remains too high (12 storeys) and too dense (428 dwellings per hectare), and will remove a significant amount of sunlight (a shocking 37.46% loss in the area of our garden receiving at least 2 hours of sunlight a day on 21st March) and privacy from my property accordingly, significantly affecting my enjoyment of it.

I urge the council to reconsider their decision, properly considering its significant negative impact on Knowle and the legacy this will have.



## **STATEMENT PS 34**

**Submitted by Derrick Williams**

**Title: Broadwalk Redevelopment and the reversal of the vote against that redevelopment**

I am writing to express my profound sense of anger and betrayal about the reversal of the decision to deny planning permission for this redevelopment.

The reversal of the previous decision was deeply unethical and politically inept. It has already resulted in many residents in the Knowle area believing that corruption lies behind this reversal, or that the three Labour councillors have been 'got at' in some manner. No amount of denial will stop Knowle residents from continuing to believe this has happened.

There was no indication prior to the meeting where the reversal was made that there was any chance that this might happen. Residents in Knowle believed that the purpose of the discussion was purely to agree a wording for the refusal. This is, at the very least, sharp practice, and adds to residents' sense of betrayal.

Any promise from the developers that the redevelopment proposal would be altered ready for the second meeting was not conveyed to Knowle residents. Again, this contributes to a widespread sense of betrayal.

For the Labour Party in Bristol this matter is of profound importance, as it gives the Liberal Democrats and Greens all the ammunition they need to claim -and with good reason- that Labour is not to be trusted. This will apply to the whole city, and not just for the local elections, but the upcoming general election. Labour members in Knowle - and there are more than 160, are already telling me that they are considering resigning from the Party.

Further, it is notable that no site visit has ever been made to the Broadwalk and its surroundings - something which, given the size of the redevelopment, is inexcusable.

Members will know that planning officers had reconsidered their previous view and are against the redevelopment -as are the vast majority of residents in Knowle.

In summary, the change of decision as to the Broadwalk redevelopment is completely inexcusable.

## **STATEMENT PS 35**

**Submitted by Mike Sadler**

**Title: Broadwalk Shopping Centre**

I was shocked to here of the U-turn performed by the planning committee on their decision on the redevelopment of if the Broadwalk Shopping Centre.

In May, the committee rejected the proposal unanimously. Given the terrible proposal, this came as no surprise to the local residents - albeit not a little relief.

This rejection was to be confirmed on the 5th July, and local residents were told that there was no need to attend:

However, at this meeting five councillors chose to change there vote. Given that no significant material change has been made to the appalling proposal, there is no obvious reason for this reversal.

I do not need to tell you all that there is a deficit in trust in both local and national politics at the moment. This strange reversal of the unanimous, popular, and understandable decision of the 31st May fails to pass the "smell test" by a country mile, and I've already heard several normally sober voices say that there is clearly something underhand going on.

For trust to endure, processes must not only be above board, but must *\*appear\** to be above board. I would suggest that the council starts by explaining on what grounds these five councillors changed their votes after the public was assured that this was "unlikely" - and the explanation needs to be a lot more compelling than "we have received a promise (although not a guarantee) that the number of affordable houses has been increased", which is what the BBC has reported

## **STATEMENT PS 36**

**Submitted by Gemma Attwell**

**Title: Knowle Broadwalk redevelopment planning application**

I'm Gemma, a 33-year-old civil servant born and raised in Knowle. I saved for ten years alongside my partner to be able to afford to buy a home in Knowle, my humble and loved local community.

On 31st of May I stood up for myself and for Knowle and attended the meeting in which the committee unanimously rejected application of the Broadwalk redevelopment. I was pleased the committee members could also see the glaring issues with the plans, not least to say the extreme hyper-density, and how most members, if not all, felt they could not willingly play a part in setting such an extreme precedent for the city or the wellbeing of its people.

Besides from the hyper-density, the other reasons cited for rejection including a focus on the quality of living for both potential residents of the development and existing local residents, permanent loss of natural light too, out of keeping with the 1930's housing in the area, lack of dual aspect in the new builds, lack of space within the new residential units, lack of parking for the new units.

I'm desperately seeking the answer to what has happened in the meantime.

The committee re-convened on the 5th of July and have outrageously reversed this decision. Why?

I am also desperately seeking the answer to why Bristol City Council's planning team were allowed to misinform residents that this meeting was purely to ratify the decision, therefore encouraging non-attendance.

Given that the overarching decision for rejection was the hyper-density which has not been addressed, this naturally brings into question the ability of the committee to act impartially. What has happened in the meantime, what influence or pressure has been placed on the members of the committee? I currently cannot see what justification has been provided with regards to the hyper-density. It feels this elephant in the room has been glossed over by trying to focus on the affordable housing subject.

This dramatic U-turn unsupported by lack of material change to the planning application naturally raises suspicions within the community and leaves me, my family, friends, neighbours, colleagues all questioning what trust we can actually hold in local politics and Bristol's planning system. This display of behaviour has been frankly undemocratic and leaves me feeling like my voice is not worthy. Like the community and our opinion means nothing. This is happening to us and not for us.

The only change to the application since initial rejection appears to be an increase in the social housing which the developers had previously said was entirely impossible due to

affordability and commercial viability. Exactly how has something that was “totally impossible” four weeks ago now become viable, only once the application was rejected. This change by the developer highlights their greed and dishonest approach.

A lesser discussed subject: the suggestion of an RPZ frightens me, will I be asked to pay for a scheme that I cannot use? I arrive home past the 5pm cut off and therefore won't be able to make use of the parking I'm now being asked to pay for. Offered as a gesture of goodwill by Cllr Eddy nonetheless – very generous. Given that my payrise last year was 1% and I am struggling to pay my existing bills this feels entirely out of touch.

Bristol council needs to defend the long term good of this city and it's residents, not aid the short term profit of yet another corporation.

I am in no way opposed to a socially responsible redevelopment of the Broadwalk site, what is currently proposed is an affront to any modern standard of architectural and social design.

## **STATEMENT PS 37**

**Submitted by Lesley Powell**

**Title: BROADWALK / REDCATCH QUARTER PLANNING U TURN**

I was a building surveyor (finally at director level running a big team of building related professional for a large multinational company) all of my career so am familiar with both sides of the Planning fence, having been developer side many times. I am a Knowle resident and was neutral about the Redcatch Quarter (Broadwalk) development prior to the outline application hearing, having faith that the Planning System would determine with integrity, fairness and professionalism, the outcome. And it did. The BCC planning case was weak, the Planning officers, in my view, unable to confidently defend or substantiate their recommendation for approval and therefore the outcome was a unanimous, 9 – 0 rejection. I was satisfied that due process had been followed and as the case 'for' was so weak, I concluded that this was indeed the right outcome.

Roll on a few weeks, to a meeting we were advised in advance (when asking whether us community should attend) was 'the role of the Committee on the 5th of July is to confirm the wording for the reasons for refusing this application. The original report will be appended. While technically the Committee could decide to reverse their decision on the 31st May, I think this is unlikely'. So, us community were suitably comforted by this not to rally to attend in person as we had at the original meeting, after all, this is the Team Manager of the Planning team telling us this.....

I watched the Planning Committee meeting via U Tube on Wednesday evening this week (as indeed I watched the Planning hearing on May 31st). Never, in my whole long, professionally related career, have I witnessed anything like the seemingly to me, stage managed farce that unfolded, guided by Cllr Eddy on Wednesday night. Nothing, related to the reasons for the Outline Planning application rejection on May 31st 2023, had seemingly changed, from what I saw and heard and yet, for some unexplained reason, we had a complete U turn, from less participants than on 31st May who clearly were at a loss as to what to say to support their case. So much dialogue on social housing which was NOT the basis for the original rejection!

The statements by the design team we're weak, added nothing to the consideration and in my personal view were in for padding out a meeting that had a pre concluded agenda before it began. This is about as far from democracy as I've ever witnessed and completely smacks of pressure exertion on certain political members to U turn their decision in order to meet local pressure to meet housing targets, obviously now we know, at any cost.

I won't be stopping here to voice my stomach churning disappointment, not that Redcatch Quarter has approval, BUT at the way that approval was achieved. I now have absolutely no faith in Bristol City Council Planning team or in the elected council who are placed there to serve with integrity and represent the views of the community not the political pressures of an outgoing Mayor eager to meet housing targets at ANY cost to society, to health and to the aesthetics of this once lovely city.

For the sake of having faith in Planning Law and in our Councillors to act with integrity and independent professionalism, an enquiry into this process for Redcatch Quarter must be held. Public servants must be held accountable for their actions.

## **STATEMENT PS 38**

**Submitted by Laura Chapman**

**Title: Broadwalk planning application**

The actions of the Labour and Conservative members of Dev Control Committee A on Wednesday 5th July have shocked the residents of South Bristol to our core and have fatally undermined our faith in the elected members of this Council.

When Dev Control Committee A voted to refuse the Broadwalk planning application on 31st May, the insight, integrity and compassion they demonstrated was seen as a triumph of local democracy and restored many people's faith in the system. It showed that passionate residents and diligent councillors could still win a David & Goliath battle against the huge economic clout of out-of-town corporate developers. It proved that it paid off to focus closely on planning policy and to cultivate a good working knowledge of architectural and planning thought leadership. It also proved that a rogue councillor acting against the majority opinion of his ward constituents could not bully and intimidate his fellow councillors into siding with commercial greed rather than constituent well-being.

The subsequent Tory and Labour u-turn over Broadwalk was a gross subversion of democracy. It was clearly a co-ordinated coup d'état and showed utter disrespect to the authority of the Green and Lib Dem members on the committee. Their actions cannot be justified, despite their efforts to try and do so. None of the material considerations of the application had changed, and debate was throttled by the decision to only allow the heads of each group to speak. This agreement was achieved deceitfully, by presenting it under the guise of speedily ratifying their unanimous version to reject the plans. It quickly became clear this was never the intention of the Chair.

Affordable housing was not a material reason for rejecting the proposal - and the amount secured via the planning process had not increased from a paltry 9.8% - so Cllr Eddy should not have introduced or encouraged discussion of the intended grants. Nor should he have warned of the likelihood of appeal. The Labour Party councillors had no rightful basis to factor either of these factors into their decision-making, and their assessment of the balance of the scheme. The application in front of Dev Control Committee A still exceeded the Urban Living SPD's optimum density for Knowle by over 350%. It still exceeded the inner-London Hyperdensity threshold by 120%.

The Planning Officer had identified robust grounds to reject the application on the grounds of density, yet this - the published purpose of the meeting - was barely discussed. Nothing material had changed about the application; the only change was the integrity and strength of character of the Labour and Tory committee members.

We also fear the Planning Department's complicity in this coup. I specifically asked the Planning Officer for clarity on the meeting's purpose, and the likelihood for the decision to change. His answer was clear: that it was to ratify the reasons for refusal, and that a u-turn was "highly unlikely". This was reiterated to Ctte members in the agenda setting meeting.

Cllr Eddy introduced new discussion points that were not consistent with the meeting's purpose.

We can only speculate on what led to these deeply disappointing and concerning changes, but in my view it appears that Cllrs Eddy and Hulme were motivated by the threat of appeal; a threat which has been frequently made on-the-record by Cllr Hopkins.

What good is the new 'cooling off' phase of the planning process if it leaves members of the committee vulnerable to lobbying and pressure from both within and without the Council? As Cllr Kent feared when resisting the original introduction of this cooling-off period, it is a mechanism which is being manipulated and misused, to subvert democratic decisions in favour of Developer greed.

The applicants have a great number of alternatives open to them when an application is fairly rejected, yet the community have no recourse or right to appeal even in the most scandalously undemocratic and unlawful situations such as this. It is a disgraceful omni-shambles.

If this Council does not thoroughly investigate the many irregularities surrounding the meeting on 5th July, you will lose the confidence of a vast number of south Bristol constituents. And if you do not correct this subversion of the decision to reject Broadwalk, you will be knowingly condemning future residents of Knowle to live in sub-standard housing, and to live with the health and social inequalities that this hyper-dense, minimum-sized housing will directly cause.



## **STATEMENT PS 39**

**Submitted by Phil Gingell**

**Title: Development plans for Broadwalk Shopping Centre**

My name is Philip Gingell and I am a resident in Knowle. On Wednesday 5th July, I and neighbours attended the Development and Planning meeting held at City Hall. Our reason for attending was to watch the “rubber stamping” of the rejection of the development plans for Broadwalk Shopping Centre. We were assured by the planning office that the meeting was a formality and there was no real reason to attend. I am glad we did, as we witnessed the most blatant attack on democracy when 3 Labour councillors changed their minds and the development was agreed, on the casting vote of the Chair.

There were a number of people giving statements on behalf of the developers, as well as the local councillor Gary Hopkins. There were only 2 speakers giving statements on behalf of the protesters, mainly because of the advice given not to attend.

I have several comments. Firstly, why did 3 Labour councillors change their votes? What incentive was given to them? One of the councillors, Cllr Jackson, lives in Knowle and must have been aware of the strength of feeling amongst residents. Why did so many speak on behalf of the developers? They were obviously not told that it was unnecessary to attend! Why did a Conservative member of the committee abstain on both votes? To keep the Tory hands clean and leave Labour members to do the dirty work?

All-in-all this was an attack on local democracy and reflects badly on Bristol City Council. The initial meeting, held on 31st May, unanimously rejected the development, mainly because the speakers explained the height of the blocks and the density of living space were unacceptable. Indeed, the density exceeds that laid down by the council! Neither of these issues have been addressed, so why the change of mind? I am afraid the whole thing smacks of deals done in smoke filled rooms, back to the 70's!

To restore faith in the council's procedure, the decision made on 5th July must be set aside and anew meeting of the Development and Planning committee needs to be held. At that meeting all sides of the argument should be investigated and a proper decision reached. If the meeting still decides to approve the development, so be it, but at least local democracy and the views of the community had been heard and served.

## **STATEMENT PS 40**

**Submitted by Rob Harnan**

### **council handling of application 22/03924/P Broadwalk redevelopment**

As you know, on the 31st of May 2023 the Bristol planning committee unanimously rejected application 22/03924/P Broadwalk redevelopment.

The committee re-convened on the 5th of July for a Development control meeting and reversed the rejection decision for application 22/03924/P Broadwalk redevelopment by approving the development scheme.

I am writing to lodge a formal complaint about the planning committee's unprecedented reversal of its decision made on the 31st of May.

On the back of this complaint I am requesting:

- A formal investigation into the ability of the committee to act impartially with a review of all events leading to the reversal of the decision.
- A committee made up of new members is setup to re-assess the application and to make a decision without any external or party political influence being placed on them.

In summary I believe that without further justification there is absolutely no explanation for the reversal of the decision beside undemocratic pressure being placed on the planning committee members.

A reversal of this type without good justification raises suspicions within the citizenry of corruption within government. Please uphold democratic transparency by carrying out an investigation into the events, communications, meetings and lobbying that preceded the change of decision and then let the findings be aired publicly and independently.

My reasoning for the requests above and the conclusion I have arrived at is based on what I personally witnessed each committee member say at the planning meeting on the 31st May 2023. The fact that there has been no material change to the planning application to justify such a significant change in position from the planning committee is significant in itself and justifies an investigation.

Some of the reasons for rejection cited by the committee during the final vote of the committee were as follows but paraphrased.

Application was:

- Totally out of keeping with the 2 storey 1930's housing in the area
- Resulted in permanent loss of natural light for neighbouring residential properties

- Far too densely populated (Hyperdense to the extreme)
- Lacked space within each residential unit for a good standard of living
- Would be a repeat of the failed post war housing developments
- Have a significant detrimental impact on existing local residents quality of living (various reasons for the impact)
- Most flats would necessarily lack dual aspect windows due to the space restrictions on site
- allocation was nowhere near the recommended levels of affordable housing
- A derisory provision for residents parking

In summary, too dense, too high and badly designed putting profit before the residents, both present and future.

The only notable material change to the application since the 31st of May that I am aware of is an increase in the social housing provision. Something the developers declared previously was entirely impossible due to affordability and commercial viability. How odd that something that was totally impossible four weeks ago suddenly became viable after the application was rejected. This change by the developer highlights their avarice and disingenuous approach.

Bristol council should be the upholder of the highest standards of building development for the benefit of generations to come. Instead it appears to be at the beck and call of commercial developers who bend the rules to their gain.

Bristol council needs to step up and defend the long term good of this city and it's residents, not aid the short term profit of a faceless corporation.

I am in no way opposed to a sympathetic and socially responsible redevelopment of the Broadwalk site, what is currently proposed is an affront to any modern standard of architectural and social design.

Democratic Services, I look forward to your reply.

Committee Members, I have Cc'd you as I am utterly baffled by the U-Turn some of you have made.

I want you to be fully aware of how you have totally undermined my confidence in the planning system and the people entrusted to uphold it.

Karin Smyth, I have cc'd you as I hope you can help make the independent investigation happen and perhaps restore some trust in democracy and the Labour Party for the residents of Knowle. Believe me when I say this planning turnaround has lost the party many life long Labour voters.

## **STATEMENT PS 41**

**Submitted by Sandra Morris**

### **Title: Broadwalk Redevelopment**

Regarding the Broadwalk redevelopment, I am totally dismayed at the overturning of the planning decision made at the Dev committee on 5th July and wish to register my dissatisfaction with this decision and the process by which this decision was made.

I understood this meeting to be a formality in which the decisions why the application had been refused last month would be discussed and recorded, and had no idea that it might be possible that a new vote could take place without all interested parties being fully represented.

I would like a public explanation, at both Councillor and council level, for why the public weren't made aware that a second vote could be taken at that meeting, and why it was decided to change the vote in favour of the developers when there were no amendments to the plans.

Without further explanation I am left feeling that the council has used underhand means to renege on a decision which was popular with the majority attending the initial planning meeting to quietly push through the unpopular decision with a minimum of opposition and so satisfy the developers, when a mere 5 weeks ago the plans, which have not been altered, were unanimously rejected 9 to 0.

I must admit that this has further undermined my belief that the elected committee are there to advocate for what is best for the local area and ultimately the local people, who enabled them to hold a position of such privilege and responsibility by voting for them, rather than those who have the means to effectively "shout the loudest" in this case the developers, who quite understandably have their financial wellbeing at the heart of their decision making, rather than what is best for the area in which they are building.

## **STATEMENT PS 42**

**Submitted by Michelle Tedder**

**Title: Broadwalk planning application**

I have been a resident of Knowle for over 30 years. I was shocked and disappointed to hear of the reversal of Planning Committee A's decision in relation to Broadwalk.

The unanimous decision of 31st May rejected the application on grounds of density and height. The Committee, in line with the majority of local residents, had concluded that the proposed development would have a significant detrimental impact on the community. Notably it was found that the application did not meet the Core Strategy Policy BCS20.

The sudden change in the views of several committee members on 5th July raises serious concerns about transparency of the process and also whether new information – including meetings that have taken place with developers– should have been included in the Officer's report and relevant documents put on the Planning portal.

We were informed that the meeting of 5th July would be to ratify a decision already made on 31st May – there is no precedent for a U turn on a major case such as this. In other recent cases where decisions have changed – these have come back with a recommendation for approval. In the case of Broadwalk, the Officer's recommendation was still Refusal, and residents had been told that the meeting was to agree reasons for that decision.

Residents can and do rightly expect a fair and transparent process and are seeking answers to questions.

We would like to know the reasons behind the votes of the members who changed their minds.

We wish to know exactly what information was shared between Officers, Members and Developers during the process.

I believe there should be a review of the whole process and the progress of the application should be suspended until the local community has had a chance to consider the facts.

Concerns about the democratic process and sense of trust in the Council and planning systems means a review/investigation is urgently needed.

## **STATEMENT PS 43**

**Submitted by Georgia Goodyer**

**Title: Broadwalk Redevelopment**

I would like to make a complaint about the recent reversal of planning decision made about the Broadwalk in Knowle.

Like many Knowle residents, I am appalled at the u-turn taken at this week's meeting about the Broadwalk development. Having recently been unanimously rejected, it seems absurd that the same councillors would change their minds without any changes made to the hyper-density of the development - the very reason cited for turning it down in the first place. There hasn't even been a promise of additional affordable housing, rather a "hope" they might reach 9% with help from housing associations.

I'm sure you won't be surprised to hear that many people in the community feel that this is undemocratic, and extremely underhand as the meeting was framed as confirmation of the original decision. The voices of people who have campaigned tirelessly for the past year to make this development be the best it can be were left unheard because of this, while developers were wheeled in to make their case.

Many citizens feel that this decision and the lack of transparency about how it was arrived at so suddenly, without any changes to the planning, seems undemocratic at best, corrupt at worst.

One councillor I have spoken to about since the decision informed me that it was in part due to a planning application that was successful on Mead Street. It seems that she hasn't visited the area, because Mead Street is largely industrial and over a mile and a half away from Knowle on the edge of the city centre. The Broadwalk is surrounded by residential streets and a large park. The two developments are in no way comparable, and it seems like a slippery slope to grant permission to build on this premise.

No-one in Knowle has ever said that the site shouldn't be redeveloped, but we have felt that it is unethical to build a site of such height and density, both for current and new residents.

I trust there will be an official report into what exactly has happened here

## **STATEMENT PS 44**

**Submitted by Jenni Rogers**

**Title: Broadwalk development**

I am deeply concerned about the proposed Broadwalk development 22/03924/P.

The news today from the BBC presents a picture of deeply suspicious and likely underhand Council activity.

May 31st saw a unanimous (9-0) vote AGAINST this development of (and I quote) 850 "unacceptably high" and "unacceptably dense" homes .. in an area of 2-storey older housing.

Yet suddenly, the voting has suddenly changed on 5th July... despite no new information being presented (the Council was informed on 31st May that the developers would stretch to 80 affordable homes - so that's not new now is it?).

"the role of the committee on 5th July was to confirm the wording for the reasons for refusing this application " and "While technically the committee could decide to reverse their decision on the 31st May. I think that this is unlikely."

How convenient not to have local representation against the development present. Are we really expected to believe that you had no inkling that such an enormous and deeply controversial decision was about to undergo a U-turn? Please do not insult our intelligence.

It doesn't exactly build trust between you and your community now does it? I am also looking disgusted by the response of the Chair, Mr Eddy saying that this email was nothing more than the Planning Officer's personal opinion. We should be able to place trust in the Council and those that help us navigate it's processes.

This decision change is at best lacking transparency and a clear evidence base - at worse it smells like something underhand is afoot.

This development is overcrowded and will provide a poor quality life experience for those in the new homes and stretch local resources beyond their limits.

I had expected better from Bristol policy makers who can affect the lives of so many.

Unless something changes I do not feel able to trust your people or processes.

## **STATEMENT PS 45**

**Submitted by Roger Jenkins**

**Title: Broadwalk redevelopment**

I am appalled by the farce re the Broadwalk Redevelopment .

Before the planning committee meeting residents were assured that their attendance was not required ; which I'm sure you're aware, now appear as misdirection and sharp practise. Six developers and Councillor Hopkins however did attend . How fortuitous for them! The damage done to democracy in bristol if nothing is done to ameliorate will be long lasting and will not fade from memory.

Three councillors who previously opined at length the reasons why they couldn't support the broadwalk redevelopment had a damascene conversion to the developer's cause in a few days and at the eleventh hour. So extreme was their commitment to the developer 's cause that a perfunctory meeting we were assured was a rubber stamping exercise , was instead usurped on developer's behalf , It was an extraordinary reversal and betrayal of the people of knowle , as well as being a complete subversion of fair democratic process. All this happened without any meaningful movement or concession offered by developers, this has understandably appalled many people .

Explanations are urgently needed. There is something rotten about this and the dismay will only grow. I hope Councillors realise just how extraordinary and untoward this all appears to the people of Bristol.



## **STATEMENT PS 46**

**Submitted by Ian Beckey, Living Easton**

### **Title: Transport**

public statement on bus services and booking office closures from Living Easton Heritage and Environmental Group to Bristol City Council Full council meeting 11th July 2023

Living Easton Heritage and Environmental Group are a community based environmental and heritage organisation of around 20 individuals and affiliated societies based predominantly around the suburbs of Easton, Whitehall, Barton Hill and Lawrence Hill of Bristol who take a particular interest in heritage, planning and sustainability issues in East Bristol.

#### **Bus service issues**

We would ask Bristol city council to work with the West of England Mayoral Combined Transport Board and North Somerset Council to review the supported bus network and to find replacement for service 5 Bristol City City Centre to St Pauls, St Werburghs, Eastville Park, Stapleton, Broomhill, Fishponds, Oldbury Court, Downend which might include an extension to Bromley Heath and Winterbourne to improve viability.

Service 506 from Southmead hospital bus station to Eastville Park, Easton the Dings, Bristol Temple Meads and the City Centre, Service 17 Southmead hospital bus station, Horfield Eastville Park, Fishponds, Staple Hill, Cossham hospital, Hillfields, Kingswood, Hanham Longwell Green and Keynsham should also operate in the evenings as per the request by Kerry McCartney MP to buses minister Richard Horton. This is a top priority.

The 36 bus service to St Anne's Park should go to Brislington to interchange with the 39 bus service to Bath and the 23 service to Ashton Vale should be reinstated.

We don't just want Franchising or Local Authority ownership. Please restore our bus network and ensure that the Westlink demand responsive bus services serve East Bristol.

#### **Ticket Office closures**

We ask that Bristol City Council, BANES, South Gloucestershire Council, North Somerset Council, Western Gateway Transport Board and the Peninsula Transport Board together with the West of England Mayoral Combined Transport Authority Mayor Dan Norris object to the closure of any booking offices in the region under section 17 of the Railway Act as proposed by First Group PLC Great Western Railway Company, the Department for Transport and Network Rail.

Objections to the ticket office closures must be submitted to Transport Focus by the 26th July 2023.

Ticket offices at Bristol Temple Meads station, Keynsham, Oldfield Park, Bath Spa, Bradford on Avon, Trowbridge, Westbury, Warminster, Frome, Filton Abbey Wood, Bristol Parkway, Yate, Gloucester Central, Cheltenham Spa, Nailsea and Backwell, Yatton for

Clevedon, Worle Parkway, Weston Super Mare, Bridgwater and Taunton must all be kept open.

On the Metro West railway network

Cross Country Trains German State Railway (Arriva Group) have no booking offices.

For disabled passengers people or those with reduced mobility, bus/railway ferry wheelchair accessible tickets cannot be bought on ticket machines.

On the unicorn models around the city for the Bristol 650 celebrations, can we ask the mayor Marvin Rees to meet with the organisation and Visit West. This is to get unicorn sites for Eastville Park, Easton, Hartcliffe, Hengrove, Knowle, Brislington and South Bristol to enable both residents and tourists to be included in this celebration.

## **STATEMENT PS 48**

**Submitted by Rachel Harrison**

**Title: Redcatch Quarter**

I am writing in reference to the Development Control Committee meeting held on 5th July at 6pm with regard to the proposal for the redevelopment of the Broadwalk shopping centre in Knowle (referred to as Redcatch Quarter). At this meeting, the plans were unanimously rejected

I'd therefore like to make complaint at what can only be described as a total disregard for democratic process.

I cannot understand how a large contingent of the developers knew to be present. They were able to state the same arguments as before with only some vague and non-binding words referencing the possibility of slightly increasing the number of "affordable homes", even then being less than 10% when compared with the council's own published targets.

We, the residents of Knowle were informed that the purpose of the meeting was to ratify the reasons for refusal and that a U turn was highly unlikely. Based on this Knowle residents did not attend, and their views were largely unheard, yet the developers views were well represented.

As there has been no alteration to the plans since the unanimous decision to reject the proposals, and the grounds for approving now appear to be on the basis of a possibility of increasing the number of affordable homes, but nothing else has changed. The only possible explanation for such a significant change of direction in opinion is external influence which flies in the face of a democratic process.

As your records will show, over 250 individual objections were submitted ahead of and accepted by the meeting on 31st May, only to be overturned in this wholly underhand and undemocratic manner.

We have a right to believe in democratic and fair processes and outcomes. And in this case the process has fallen incredibly short of these basic expectations. We want a detailed explanation of the circumstances leading to this change in direction and the original decision to refuse the plans to stand.

In summary, I will not restate the multitude of reasons why the proposal is entirely unsuitable as that is now a matter of public record. 250 objections, a significant attendance from the community of Knowle opposing the plans, and a unanimous rejection should be entirely sufficient to have closed this matter.

## **STATEMENT PS 49**

**Submitted by Jen Chequer**

**Title: Broadwalk Redevelopment**

The below email was sent to you by my neighbour! This email summed up my thoughts and feelings perfectly. The point made about schools is crucial as the desperation for school places is horrific and I needed to send my children to another city , bath as there were not any places nearer!!!

The recent decision made by the council to overturn the earlier much wise decision to change it for environmental reasons is a profound mistake.

This development is too high density. There isn't the infrastructure in place to cope with 850 new homes and all those extra people who will be crammed into that small an area

It will be disastrous for those of us who already live here to endure a build of this scale and its aftermath. We already do not have enough schools , parking spaces, public transport or community space without flooding the area with more people than it can cope with. It will be a social disaster. It will be an environmental disaster.

This development is being forced onto us against our will in a perversion of the local democratic process. People will have to live here coping with the mess financially and socially long after the developers and the politicians whose pockets they have probably lined have made their money and moved on.

The way the earlier decision was overturned after all the careful research planning and consultation feels very like the developer has just gamed the system. It reeks of corruption. This is the first time ever that both Labour and Conservatives have worked together on anything. Suddenly agreeing out of the blue?Why? Both of these parties are violating their own manifesto pledges on sustainability by supporting this.

If you think that people living here will allow this without a fight you are making a huge mistake.

This area needs proper redevelopment. It does not need a greedy get rich quick scheme. People need affordable housing not investment opportunities for private landlords.

We need a secondary school not a cinema.

Decent retail space for proper high street shops not several pawn shops and fast food takeaways.

## **STATEMENT PS 50**

**Submitted by Sasha Leigh**

**Title: Broadwalk Redevelopment**

On the 31st of May 2023 the Bristol planning committee unanimously rejected application 22/03924/P Broadwalk redevelopment.

The committee re-convened on the 5th of July for a Development control meeting and reversed the rejection decision for application 22/03924/P Broadwalk redevelopment by approving the development scheme. Residents and representative groups were told that this was a meeting purely for ratification and so did not need to attend.

A reversal of this type without good justification raises suspicions within the citizenry of corruption within government. Ostensibly the reversal of the decision was due to the social housing provision being amended by the developers. A provision that the developers declared previously was entirely impossible due to affordability and commercial viability. However there were also materially significant further objections to the planning which led to the unanimous decision to reject on 31st May.

Residents are not opposed to a sympathetic and socially responsible redevelopment of the Broadwalk site, but what is currently proposed is an affront to any modern standard of architectural and social design. It will be to the detriment of the area into the future.

The process which led to the reversal of the original decision needs immediate scrutiny.

## **STATEMENT PS 51**

**Submitted by Ben Skingley**

**Title: Broadwalk Redevelopment**

There is an article posted on B24/7 in July 2020 that featured our Mayor — Marvin Rees. The article was concerned with government deregulation of planning process.

The article starts off...

Marvin Rees has voiced concerns about a “values-free” dash for growth in the wake of the pandemic and argued the government’s approach is letting communities down.

Bristol’s mayor slammed recent deregulation of the planning laws, saying now is not the time to lessen democratic oversight of housing delivery.

The Mayor goes on to bemoan people in London making blanket decisions that don’t take local councils concerns and needs into account.

It seems the Mayor doesn’t practice what he preaches...

What we witnessed on Wednesday was an astonishing example of people disregarding local concerns and needs. Councillors belonging to the same political party so obviously having been whipped into changing their vote to enable the Mayor to meet his targets or ‘numbers’.

In this article He goes on to say 'We want to build quality homes, not just get the numbers up' and 'We cannot have a values-free dash for economic recovery'

This development decimates the councils own Planning Policy Guidance by 356%

What about that isn’t just getting the numbers up

Many of these flats are tiny and single aspect — this is far from ‘quality housing’

We have to build 850 flats just to get 80 or perhaps 175 affordable homes?

This development is monstrous and completely in congress with the local area.

It’s such a tragedy that Bristol council doesn’t have the confidence to regenerate for the long term and regenerate in a way that elevates the city. Not just desperately grabbing the first opportunity that a developer throws at them.

## **STATEMENT PS 52**

**Submitted by Adblock Bristol**

**Title: Bond Street South**

Councillors and the Mayor may be aware that the new, giant advertising screen on Bond Street South, at the back of Cabot Circus, has caused a strong local response. You may have seen that after months of works, the 11 metre high screen has now been erected right in the middle of the pavement, which is also a dedicated cycling path.

When switched on, the screen will be a giant distraction for drivers navigating a busy road that has nearby pedestrian crossings and high footfall owing to the proximity to the shopping district. Digital screens are highly distracting to road users, especially young drivers. The risk this screen poses to safety is unacceptable. As well as this, it adds nothing but a large eyesore to the character of the local area, and will shine harmful light pollution directly onto student flats. Adverts for material consumption will dominate the screen, undermining the Council's work to reduce emissions and encourage healthy living.

The screen will also use a shocking amount of electricity - the power specification given within the application shows that at a typical usage, this screen will use the same electricity as 11 average UK homes every year. In a cost of living and energy crisis, why are we allowing needless advertising to place more pressure on the Grid?

We understand that the planning application was developed jointly between the advertising company and Bristol City Council, following a plan adopted by the previous mayor to increase revenue for the council from digital advertising screens. We therefore assume that the content will be restricted according to the council's Advertising and Sponsorship Policy which restricts harmful advertising - including HFSS foods, alcohol and gambling - on sites within the council's control.

We understand that the screen was refused by Bristol City Council in 2018, but was granted by the Planning Inspectorate on appeal. However, there are steps the council can take now to make sure this never happens again.

We're asking the council to:

- Consider issuing a Discontinuance Notice on the screen when the 5 year period of express consent ends in December 2023.
- Commit to adopting Draft Policy DC B into the Local Plan, in full, and widen this section to include consideration to the impact of outdoor advertising on cyclists and pavement users.
- Adopt a 'presumption against' new digital billboards to give a strong signal to advertisers that they are not welcome in Bristol.
- Write to the relevant minister in the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to ask that the 2007 planning regulations for new advertising infrastructure are reformed to take into account the specific impacts of digital billboards.

## **STATEMENT PS 53**

**Submitted by Stephen Reynolds**

**Title: Redcatch Quarter**

I'm writing to express my extreme disappointment regards the shock u-turn to grant approval to the super high density slum of tomorrow: Redcatch Quarter.

A unanimous rejection (9-0) was the outcome of the May approval meeting. Then on 5th July a meeting that residents were advised was a formality took place. Apparently the Labour councillors had changed their minds?! All of them. The reasons for rejection were clear: The density of the project was utterly unacceptable, both in terms of the extent to which it will destroy the community, and in terms of the horrible, light deprived, poor quality, high rise boxes it will provide people to live in. None of this has been addressed by the developers. None of it. So please explain the u-turn. Some half baked pledges from the developers about 'maybe' adding more affordable housing... But nothing regards the actual reasons for rejecting this monstrosity.

I have completely lost faith in Bristol councillors and the democratic process. I feel conned and lied to. I now have the prospect of raising daughter, not in a quiet cul-de-sac, but in the constant shadow of 12 storey tower blocks. What has happened here needs urgent investigation.



## **STATEMENT PS 54**

**Submitted by Neil Dakeyne**

**Title: Redcatch Quarter**

I would like to express my absolute disbelief and disgust at the u-turn of the Broadwalk development at the recent council planning meeting. The local community groups were led to believe this was just a formality to ratify the previous decision and therefore did not attend, whereas the developers were there in force.

Other than the developers saying they will attempt to add more affordable housing to the scheme (there is no guarantee this will happen) the plans have not changed. The plans were unanimously rejected on the basis of height and density, the offer of more affordable housing does not change this.

This u-turn by the councillors undermines the democratic process and further erodes the trust in local politics and politicians. With no obvious reason for the change in opinion, one can only speculate that the councillors have been incentivised by the developers outside of the meeting.

I, and many others in the local community, would expect a thorough investigation into the events leading up to the recent meeting and any contact that the developers had with the councillors prior to it.

## **STATEMENT PS 55**

**Submitted by Mark Ashdown**

### **Title: SNCI Boundaries**

When the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Map (the Map) was adopted in July 2014, it failed to show the correct boundaries of the following Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCIs):

1. BC1 – Airport Road.
2. BC16 – Brislington Meadows.
3. BC49 – Malago Valley.
4. BC54 – Novers Common.
5. BC64 – St Anne’s Valley.
6. BC80 - Pigeonhouse Stream and adjacent Meadows.
7. BC108 – Bonnington Walk.

According to government guidance and to the Designated Sites Protocol adopted by the Council, SNCIs may only be altered or de-selected by a Local Sites Partnership (LSP) ‘if their nature conservation interest deteriorates to such an extent that they no longer qualify as Local Sites’. As the LSP had not altered or de-selected these SNCIs at the time and as they have not been altered or de-selected since, their boundaries as shown on the Map are incorrect. We have presented compelling evidence both to the Mayor’s office and to Council officers that the Map is incorrect. We have also repeatedly pointed out that, as the Map does not form part of the current development plan (also called the local plan) - as confirmed by statute, case law and the Planning Inspectorate - it can be corrected by a simple resolution by Full Council. Despite this, the administration refuses to correct this error. We have even submitted a petition to the Council requesting that the Map be corrected but this has been rejected for supposed ‘technical’ reasons. We have set out our arguments as to why this is not the case but to no avail. Be this as it may, the fact is that the Map is wrong and needs correcting. We call on the Council to take immediate steps to amend the Map to show the correct boundaries of the SNCIs listed above.

# Full Council – 11 July 2023

## Agenda item 6 b

### Public questions



#### Procedural note:

##### Questions submitted by members of the public:

- Questions can be about any matter the Council is responsible for or which directly affect the city.
- Members of the public who live and/or have a business in Bristol are entitled to submit up to 2 written questions, and to ask up to 2 supplementary questions. A supplementary question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply.
- Replies to questions will be given verbally by the Mayor (or a Cabinet member where relevant). Written replies will be published within 10 working days following the meeting.



\*point of explanation - where a person has asked two questions on the same topic they are on the same line. Where topics are different they have different lines.

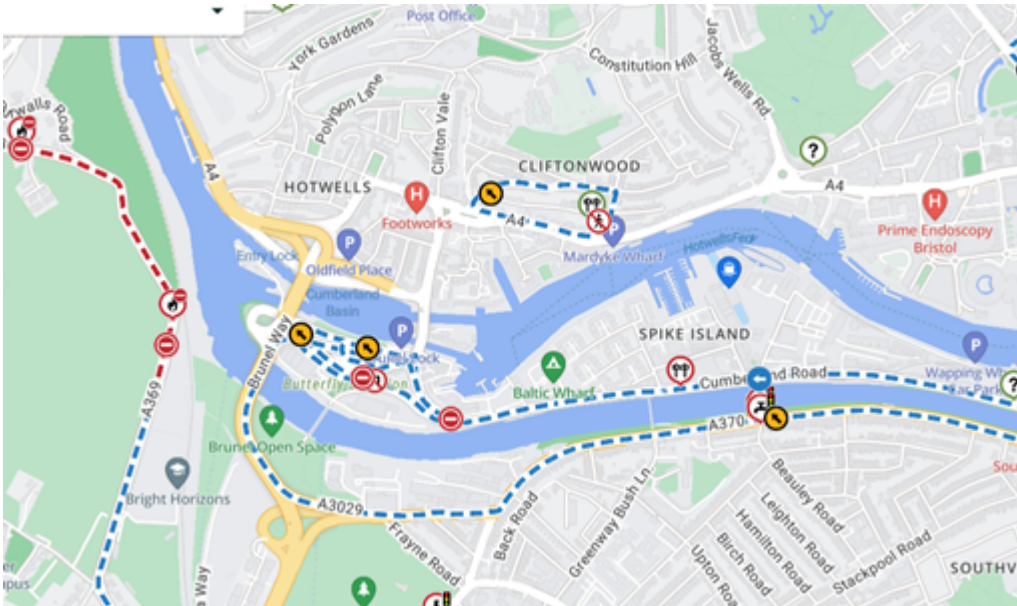
Ref No	Name	Title
PQ01	Martin Rands	Traffic Regulation Order
PQ02	Vassili Papastavrou	Otters on Hartcliffe Way
PQ03	Jen Smith	Investigation into Social Media
PQ04	Lynda Rooke	Funding for Cultural Organisations
PQ05	Ian Harris	Cultural Investment
PQ06	Lena Wright	Developer Funds Allocated for RPZ in Windmill Hill
PQ07	Janet Adams	Independent Arts Panel
PQ08	Charlotte Gage	Digital Advertising Screen
PQ09	Haydn Gill	Golden Motion Vision Zero
PQ10	Gerard Cooke	Cultural Investment
PQ11	Naomi Campbell	Cultural Investment
PQ12	Kim Hicks	Independent Arts Panel
PQ13	Cliff Evans	Cultural Investment
PQ14	Clarissa Payne	Trans Inclusion Policy
PQ15	Sian Ellis-Thomas	Member Complaints
PQ16	Claire Gronow	Net Zero Bristol
PQ17	Rick Alden	One City Climate Strategy
PQ18	Greg Cooper	Net Zero Bristol
PQ19	Stephen McNamara	Equity and Inclusion Policy
PQ20	Emma Harvey	Community Asset Transfers
PQ21	Wendy Stephenson	Equity and Inclusion Policy
PQ22	Rob Bryher	Liveable Neighbourhoods
PQ23	David Redgewell	Buses and Rail
PQ24	Simon Rees	One City Climate Strategy
PQ25	Dan Ackroyd	Social Media
PQ26	Suzanne Audrey	Bristol Harbour Community
PQ27	Rob Dixon	MetroWest Station
PQ28	Dan Ackroyd	YTL Arena
PQ29	Margaret Page	Equity and Inclusion Policy
PQ30	Mark Ashdown	Tree Preservation Order
PQ31	Mark Ashdown	SNCI Boundaries

## QUESTION PQ 01

**Subject: Traffic Regulation Order**

**Question submitted by: Martin Rands**

1. A Temporary Traffic Regulation Order applies to Cumberland Road/Smeaton Road until 28th July 2023. Please see attached screenshot of One Network notification. According to the One Network website, a temporary traffic regulation order does not appear to apply to Avon Crescent. It looks like one does not exist. My question is "Is there a temporary traffic regulation order in place for Avon Crescent?"



2. If (as I suspect) there is no temporary traffic regulation order in existence for Avon Crescent, will you enact one for Avon Crescent until a new s.73 Metrobus AVTM planning consent is granted by a development control committee? Failing this, the council will be in breach of the Metrobus AVTM planning conditions it imposed upon itself, if the Avon Crescent barriers are removed."

**QUESTION PQ 02****Subject: Otters on Hartcliffe Way****Question submitted by: Vassili Papastavrou**

On 20 January 2023 there was an article by Tristan Cork regarding the deaths of two otters on Hartcliffe Way. Since then it has become apparent that the grill on Pigeon House Stream was too fine to allow an otter to pass through it in order to travel under the road. I have since found an example of an Environment Agency grill in Mousehole with a much greater width between the bars which would allow otters to pass. It is unlikely that Pigeon House stream grill is owned or installed by the Environment Agency as there is no sign stating this so it is likely to be owned by BCC. Despite the disturbing deaths of these two otters, and several requests by a number of people including me, nothing has been done in the last six months to address the problem. The current harbourside litter bin campaign states that BCC likes otters but clearly practical measures are needed beyond photos on bins.

Can the Mayor now take tangible steps to address mortality of otters on Hartcliffe Way? This may include adjusting the grill on Pigeon House Stream in order that otters can pass under the road and otter fencing to prevent the passage of otters across the road.



**QUESTION PQ 03**

**Subject: Investigation into Social Media**

**Question submitted by: Jen Smith**

On Tuesday 18 October 2022, councillors voted for an independent investigation into social media.

Why has this not happened yet? Please include the timeline set for this to take place in the answer.



**QUESTION PQ 04**

**Subject: Funding for Cultural Organisation**

**Question submitted by: Lynda Rooke**

1. When can Equity, a trade union which represents many of the freelance, self employed workers in this sector expect an invite to participate on this panel as a Social Partner?
2. What analysis did your office take over the potential loss of jobs and the economic impact of delaying this funding, as compared to awarding funding as planned in October 2022?





**QUESTION PQ05**

**Subject: Cultural Investment**

**Question submitted by: Ian Harris**

Given the way the One City Plan celebrates the vital role culture and the creative industries play in lives of Bristol people, it's economy and in terms of its international reputation - why did you instigate a lengthy delay to the original decision deadline of October 2022 for the BCC Cultural Investment Programme?

And on what basis do you think that a new independent panel for arts funding is required, given that a rigorous process had already been conducted by Council officers - as in previous years?



**QUESTION PQ 06**

**Subject: Developer Funds Allocated for RPZ in Windmill Hill**

**Question submitted by: Lena Wright**

There is three-quarters of a £million paid to date by developers of the Council's flagship "Bedminster Green" regeneration area - for the necessary RPZ zones around the thousand new apartment units that are now being built near East Street. At least 5 blocks of flats are progressing very quickly, and have already passed 10 storeys tall. The first new residents should be expected to arrive in less than a year, but there has been no noticeable movement at all on the spending of that dedicated RPZ money. Planning and implementing an RPZ takes substantial time - especially consultation - and it now appears very unlikely that any RPZs will be ready to start before new residents start arriving with many hundreds of new cars and nowhere to park except already-full nearby residential streets.

It is not legally permissible to spend this developer money on anything other than RPZs as determined by the planning approval; if the money is not spent within the legal time-limit, it will be handed back to the developers to take as excess profits for shareholders. Therefore, can the Mayor explain:

Q1. How much of the Bedminster Green developer contribution for parking is now spent, on what?

Q2. What date does he expect consultation on the new RPZs around Bedminster Green to begin?



**QUESTION PQ07**

**Subject: Janet Adams**

**Question submitted by: Independent Arts Panel**

What will the terms of reference for the new independent arts panel be?

What democratic scrutiny will this new independent arts panel be given by Council?



**QUESTION PQ08**

**Subject: Digital Advertising Screen**

**Question submitted by: Charlotte Gage**

Will the Mayor consider issuing a Discontinuance Notice on the extremely large JCDecaux digital advertising screen which has just been built next to Cabot Circus? This screen was approved in 2018 and has only just been constructed, meaning its 5 year period of express consent ends in December 2023, at which point a Discontinuance Notice could be issued. The screen blocks the pavement, and when it is switched on, it will create light pollution and be an extremely hazardous distraction to drivers. You may have seen that it has received a lot of strong criticism from local people. What would it cost to issue a Discontinuance Notice? And if you would not consider doing this can you give the reasons why not?



**QUESTION PQ09**

**Subject: Golden Motion Vision Zero**

**Question submitted by: Haydn Gill**

The golden motion is about making Bristol safe for everyone, focusing on what Bristol City Council can do now and how it can work with partner organisations to reduce avoidable road death and injury on Bristol's roads. Birmingham had four people killed by drivers, including two children, whilst walking and cycling in June. We cannot let the same happen in Bristol.

Q1: Cllr Alexander, when will Bristol City Council and Bristol Waste vehicles become speed limited, Voi e-scooters have proven it is cheap and possible in this city?

Q2: Mayor Rees, as a fellow cyclist, have you ever had a driver overtake too close or pull out in front of you whilst cycling in Bristol, how did it make you feel, do you empathise with what thousands of Bristolians experience whilst cycling and e-scootering on a daily basis?



**QUESTION PQ 10**

**Subject: Cultural Investment**

**Question submitted by: Gerard Cooke**

1. Why, in March 2022, was the new Cultural Investment Programme launched - with the Mayor's sign off <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/files/documents/1103-bd13958-a-cultural-investment-prog-2023-27-v3-p8/file> - and how much public money was used, and indeed wasted, on this part of the process which has now been binned?
2. Why have you decided to scrap the method of delivery of the Investment Programme before you've designed its replacement?



**QUESTION PQ11**

**Subject: Cultural Investment**

**Question submitted by: Naomi Campbell**

If it wasn't a rigorous process that was conducted by the council arts officers concerning arts funding, can you explain why it wasn't?

Will the meetings, documents and Terms of Reference of this independent arts panel be open to public and press?



**QUESTION PQ12**

**Subject: Independent Arts Panel**

**Question submitted by: Kim Hicks**

1. When did you take the decision that a new Independent Arts Panel was needed?
2. How will the new Independent Arts Panel be structured?





**QUESTION PQ13**

**Subject: Cultural Investment**

**Question submitted by: Cliff Evans**

Why, in March 2022, was the new Cultural Investment Programme launched - with the Mayor's sign off <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/files/documents/1103-bd13958-a-cultural-investment-prog-2023-27-v3-p8/file> - and how much public money was wasted on this part of the process which has now been binned?

Will the meetings, documents and Terms of Reference of this independent arts panel be open to public and press?



## QUESTION PQ14

**Subject: Trans Inclusion Policy**

**Question submitted by: Clarissa Payne**

### **1. What policies are in place to ensure BCC avoids unlawful belief discrimination or sex discrimination against staff and service users?**

Last week researcher Maya Forstater was awarded over £100,000 in compensation from her former employer, CGD, who had unlawfully discriminated against her because she holds the view that biological sex exists, cannot be changed and is sometimes important.

A week earlier, Denise Fahmy was successful at the Employment Tribunal against her former employer Arts Council England, who had discriminated against her for having similar views. The ruling stated she had been subjected to harassment from her colleagues.

In the same week, ceramic artist Claudia Clare won a settlement against University of the Arts London and the Craft Potters Association after they cancelled her lecture because of her gender-critical views. In 2022, barrister Allison Bailey won a similar discrimination claim against her chambers, Garden Court.

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2023/jul/01/maya-forstater-woman-who-lost-job-after-tweeting-view-on-biological-sex-awarded-100000-by-tribunal>

<https://www.theguardian.com/culture/2023/jun/27/gender-critical-woman-wins-harassment-claim-against-arts-council-england>

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2023/06/17/top-arts-school-apologise-cancelling-feminist-artist/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-62294030>

It is unclear whether BCC provides single-sex services such as toilets and changing rooms for staff and service users.

It is unclear how BCC ensures it is legally compliant with the Public Sector Equality Duty and the relevant government guidance.

It is unclear whether policies are in place to ensure BCC avoids unlawful sex discrimination in facilities provision.

Under-provision of toilets for women and girls could be unlawful under the Public Sector Equality Duty (Equality Act 2010). The desegregation of toilets may be in contravention of government guidance, given within the British Standards (British Standard, BS 6465 Part One on Sanitary installations) and the related Building Regulations which sets out the levels of male/female toilet provision required.

It is unclear whether, if BCC does not provide such single sex services, this is made clear to service users.

It is unclear whether BCC provides guidance on single-sex provision to organisations receiving BCC funding'

In February 2023 the Employment Appeal Tribunal ruled that Earl Shilton Town Council, in failing to provide female-only toilet facilities, had discriminated against women. The judge noted that the



effects of this direct sex discrimination were asymmetric; the detriment was greater for women than for men.

<https://www.personneltoday.com/hr/work-toilets-sex-discrimination-legal-case/>

## **2. Public Engagement**

In August-October 2022 BCC held a public consultation on its draft Trans Inclusion Policy.

<https://news.bristol.gov.uk/press-releases/1755b14e-c85c-4b92-846c-051b6b606da3/have-your-say-on-bristol-city-council-s-draft-trans-inclusion-and-gender-identity-policy>

The results of this consultation have not been published.

In item 2.4 of the Equality Impact Assessment (page 56 Public Reports Pack) BCC states that it has engaged with the following stakeholders:

“1625ip; Babbasa; Black South West Network; Bristol Disability Equality Forum; Bristol Equality Network Chairs; Bristol Multi Faith Forum; Bristol Muslim Strategic Leadership Group; Bristol Older Peoples Forum; Bristol Women’s Voice; Creative Youth Network; Freedom Youth/OTR Bristol; Mayoral Commissions; SARI; The Care Forum; Trans Pride South West; VOSCUR; WECIL”

All these groups are in receipt of funds from BCC.

**What plans does BCC have to engage with unfunded local gender-critical groups such as Bad Policy Watch, the local branches of the Women’s Rights Network, Women of Wessex, Lesbian Rights Alliance, SEEN Civil Service Network?**



**QUESTION PQ15**

**Subject: Member Complaints**

**Question submitted by: Sian Ellis - Thomas**

We should be able to depend on honesty, integrity and respect from our elected representatives. The current system of accountability for Councillors is just not fit for purpose and must be addressed so that residents, community groups and officers can access a fair system of complaint and redress. It takes courage and considerable emotional labour to embark on a complaint of this kind against a member and it's not something that anyone instigates without being pushed to the very edge.

The commitment by councillors to work with community groups is essential, but those people who do work with us, must be accountable to treat us with honesty, respect and dignity.

Q1: Can the Mayor confirm that he will ensure that member complaints are reviewed and investigated in full including internal and external enquiries where necessary.

Q2: Does the mayor agree that the current process and sanctions for breaches of the Member Code Of Conduct are woefully insufficient and must be made more robust to act as more of a deterrent to offenders who breach the code.



**QUESTION PQ16**

**Subject: Net Zero Bristol**

**Question submitted by: Clair Gronow**

It seems pretty clear that Council is not on track to deliver the promised carbon neutral Bristol by 2030. When asked about this, the Mayor seems to be distancing himself from this commitment. For example, in responses to questions to the December 2022 Council meeting, we were told “The emissions of the whole city are not the responsibility of the council nor is their reduction solely a result of the council’s action”. This seems odd, given that the Mayor’s Climate Emergency Action Plan (2019) clearly states the Mayor’s commitment to a carbon neutral Bristol by 2030, and that the Mayor, in his TED Talk (May 2022) told us very clearly that we could hold him personally accountable for this commitment.

Is Bristol City Council still committed to delivering a carbon neutral Bristol by 2030, or has the responsibility been passed on to others to deliver this commitment?

If so, who can the citizens of Bristol now hold to account for delivering on the commitment?



**QUESTION PQ 17**

**Subject: One City Climate Strategy**

**Question submitted by: Rick Alden**

I note in the latest report from the Bristol Advisory Committee on Climate Change it says with regard to the One City Climate Strategy : “ In short progress is not yet sufficient or widespread enough to meet the goals of the strategy”.

So my questions are two fold:

1. What concrete actions is the council undertaking to improve progress so that Bristol gets back on track to meet the goals of the strategy?
2. When does the council expect to be back on track with it’s One City Climate Strategy?



**QUESTION PQ18**

**Subject: Net Zero Bristol**

**Question submitted by: Greg Cooper**

A successful transition to net zero will only happen if the public are aware of and accept the scale of change needed. What specifically is the Council doing to accelerate this City-wide awareness - including addressing misinformation about the transition that appears in some parts of the media - and how will the effectiveness of the Council's efforts be measured?



## QUESTION PQ19

**Subject: Equity and Inclusion Policy**

**Question submitted by: Stephen McNamara**

### Introduction

I refer you to the Equality Impact Assessment (Appendix B to the Equity and Inclusion Policy Report) and the consideration of the protected characteristic of "religion or belief".

There is no mention of the pressing need to protect the right of officers who do not agree with a trans ideology. This is an embarrassing failure given the debate taking place and given recent legal cases

### The “chilling effect”

#### Given

1. The Full Council resolution of 5/7/2022 that
  - trans men are men, trans women are women and
  - To ...not [take] advice from or award[..] contracts to organisations that promote an anti-trans agenda or propaganda.
2. The refusal of the council to publicly acknowledge that the motion of 5/7/22 is non-binding and without legal effect (as conceded in private correspondence)

It is foreseeable that officers will fear detriment for expressing perfectly common and widely held and protected beliefs

### Some legal reminders of a basic right

#### Please consider

- 1) The Employment Appeal decision in Forstater which states that gender critical beliefs such as that sex is immutable “is a belief that might in some circumstances cause offence to trans persons, but the potential for offence cannot be a reason to exclude a belief from protection” (para 111) and that such gender critical beliefs are worthy of respect in a democratic society. Ms Forstater has been awarded over £100,000 for the manner in which she was treated
- 2) Fahmy v Arts Council England: Ms Fahmy was found to have been harassed as a result of expressing gender critical views

### Questions

- 1) **Do you think the Equality Impact Assessment is adequate when it fails to even mention this issue?**
- 2) **Will you please confirm that officers of the council will not be subject to sanction or detriment if they believe and state (in appropriate circumstances and in an appropriate manner) that , for example:**





- A person cannot change sex;
- A trans woman is a man;
- Sex is binary, immutable and important;
- Belief in “gender identity” is a fundamental muddle;
- A man should not be given drugs to enable them to “breast feed” a baby;
- Experimental puberty blocking drugs should not be given to children;
- Gender Ideology should not be taught as fact in schools;
- Trans women should not compete in women’s sports;
- Trans women should not be allowed in women’s single sex spaces;
- Rapists should never be put into a women’s prison;
- A lesbian does not have a penis



**QUESTION PQ20**

**Subject: Community Asset Transfers**

**Question submitted by: Emma Harvey**

Given the inconsistencies and lack of transparency within the Community Asset Transfer process, as well as the continuous neglect and decline of community infrastructure like Jacobs Wells Baths, will the Council consider the adoption of a new 'Public Realm' asset use class and an improved CAT process that ensures better definition and protection of our civic and cultural domains for the benefit of all citizens?



**QUESTION PQ21****Subject: Equity and Inclusion Policy****Question submitted by: Wendy Stephenson**

The Council recognises that gender reassignment is a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010. However, on page 32 of the policy when listing protected characteristics it uses the terms 'gender identity' and 'gender expression'. Neither of these terms have any meaning in law but are generally used by institutions who subscribe to gender identity ideology. That is, the belief that 'transwomen (men) are women' and 'transmen (women) are men'. This belief was promoted and endorsed by full Council in its Silver Motion of 5 July 2022.

It is likely that most people in Bristol don't subscribe to the notion of gender identity and believe that humans have a sex and a personality. This protected belief is of course held by many council employees and councillors and is known as 'gender critical'.

The concerns of many people, including women's groups, faith groups, sports groups; the successful court cases of Allison Bailey, Maya Forstater, Denise Fahmy, Claudia Clare (all discriminated against because of their gender critical beliefs); the closure of the Tavistock Clinic and the Cass report have been dismissed in the Equalities Impact Assessment in the following line:

'Some people have concerns about the promotion of Trans rights and this has become a controversial equalities fault line'

This response is wholly inadequate.

**Question 1**

How will Bristol City Council ensure that councillors, council employees, job applicants, citizens of Bristol, funded organisations, partner organisations, do not suffer a 'chilling effect' in that they are not free to express their gender critical beliefs, and are not discriminated against in other ways because of their beliefs?

**Religion and Belief**

The Equalities Impact Assessment states that 'some people may not want physical contact with someone of a differing sex on account of their religion'.

The impact of this is not addressed and no mitigation is offered.

**Question 2**

What consideration has been given to the impact of men (complete with male genitalia) but who identify as women accessing female only spaces that may also be used by Muslim women, for example?



## **QUESTION PQ22**

**Subject: Liveable Neighbourhoods**

**Question submitted by: Rob Bryher**

### **Preamble to Q1**

It is really great to see the Liveable Neighbourhoods trial scheme being implemented in the next few months in St George. Many local residents have expressed to me how clogged with rat run traffic their streets are and how important it is for their children's safety that this scheme is implemented. However, residents to the north of Church Road are interested to know whether they will see any similar proposals being brought forward as there are a number of places that have been highlighted to be streets negatively affected by through-traffic.

**Q1: What plans currently exist to extend the liveable neighbourhoods programme north of Church Road to the area between Whitehall Road and Church Road?**

### **Preamble to Q2**

Studies of London's LTNs have shown that traffic decreased by around 46% on roads within the scheme area, but concerns persist in the local community about the effect of this traffic being forced onto Church Road.

**Q2: Has modelling been undertaken to understand how much traffic will decrease on roads within the scheme area and/or increase on Church Road during the trial scheme and whether this will be a negligible increase (or no increase at all) over time?**



**QUESTION PQ23**

**Subject: Buses and Rail**

**Question submitted by: David Redgewell**

**Question 1**

With the secretary of state for transport Mark HARPER MP now allowing the west of England mayoral combined Transport Authority and North Somerset council to use part of £105 million pounds bus service improvement plan to be spent on support bus services.

Will Bristol city council now work with the metro mayor Dan Norris. Will the city council work to restore public bus service in Bristol to following areas: Stapleton Broomhill, Fishponds, Ashton vale, parts of Eastville, Easton, the Dings, Bristlington and links to Southmead hospital uwe Bristol parkway and south Bristol hospital.

**Question 2**

Will Bristol city council work with the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council to make representations to Department for transport and Transport focus about the closure of Railway ticket offices.

At Bristol Temple meads station Bristol parkway station ,Filton Abbey wood Yate Keynsham oldfield park Bath spa. Nailsea and Backwell , yatton for clevedon worle parkway Weston super mare.

The lack ticket offices and staff will make it difficult for passenger with reduced mobility and need Assist travel with protected characteristics to use the metro west Network.



**QUESTION PQ24**

**Subject: One City Climate Strategy**

**Question submitted by: Simon Rees**

I note in the latest report from the Bristol Advisory Committee on Climate Change it says with regard to the One City Climate Strategy : “ In short progress is not yet sufficient or widespread enough to meet the goals of the strategy”.

So my questions are :

- What concrete actions is the council undertaking to improve progress so that Bristol gets back on track to meet the goals of the strategy?
- When does the council expect to be back on track with it’s One City Climate Strategy?



**QUESTION PQ25**

**Subject: Social Media**

**Question submitted by: Dan Ackroyd**

In the Cabinet meeting on the 4th of July, Councillor Craig said on behalf of Mayor Rees, "The nimbys who love to roll around on Twitter will never contribute anything other than their negativity".

Please can you clarify exactly who you mean. For example is it every twitter user who is interested in Bristol that "rolls around in NIMBYism", or is it only the people who don't agree with you?



## QUESTION PQ26

**Subject: Bristol Harbour Community**

**Question submitted by: Suzanne Audrey**

Background. At the Cabinet meeting on 4 July 2023, Deputy Mayor Craig Cheney stated the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community is not disproportionately represented within the harbour community, and to conflate Bristol's harbour community with the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community is 'unacceptable appropriation'.

Bristol City Council's website [Gypsy, Roma and Travellers (bristol.gov.uk)] indicates:

Bristol's Gypsy, Roma and Travellers

The term Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) describes a number of ethnic and cultural groups.

Ethnic Gypsy, Roma and Travellers include:

- Romany English Gypsies
- Eastern European Roma and Irish Travellers
- Scottish and Welsh Gypsies and Travellers
- Showpeople

These Gypsy, Roma and Travellers are minority ethnic groups, often with their own traditions, customs and languages.

Cultural Travellers include:

- Circus and Travelling Showpeople
- New Travellers
- Boat dwellers
- And in some cases vehicle dwellers

Cultural Travellers may travel or chose to live in a caravan, boat or vehicle because it is a family tradition or because they've known no other life. Others travel in search of a better life, for economic or environmental reasons.

All of these groups are represented in Bristol. Each group has its own culture. They often share the same problems related to accessing public services and discrimination.

Question 1. On what basis was it asserted that Gypsy, Roma and Travellers (including boat dwellers who are defined as cultural travellers above) are not disproportionately represented amongst Bristol's Harbour Community? Please provide the data used to assess this including the % of Gypsy, Roma and Travellers in Bristol's general population and the % of Gypsy, Roma and Travellers within the harbour community.

Question 2. Please provide an update on the implementation of the new harbour fees structure including the implementation date and any impacts to date on the harbour community of residents and businesses.





**QUESTION PQ27**

**Subject: MetroWest Station**

**Question submitted by: Rob Dixon**

1) What planning have Bristol City Council done to ensure that the new MetroWest station at Ashley Down is fully integrated with local bus services when it opens? Or does the council still think that existing facilities are adequate, as they have previously told both WECA and campaigners? Currently only westbound services on Muller Road, and southbound services on Sheldon Road stop near the new station. Other stops are at some distance, up steep hills.

2) Will Bristol City Council ensure that stops are built adjacent to the station on Muller Road, together with service information at stops and station and full signage between them to provide proper integration with local bus services?



**QUESTION PQ28**

**Subject: YTL Arena**

**Question submitted by: Dan Ackroyd**

In the document "YTL ARENA COMPLEX Transport Assessment" there is a table named "Proposed Mode Share for Each Event Type".

That table is based on a 17,000 capacity arena not a 19,000 capacity one.

That table seems to assume there are more parking spaces available than there will be after the temporary car park is built over in 2031.

In addition to those problems, the table seem to be based entirely on capacity rather than demand. There seems to be an assumption that people will be so desperate to get to the arena, that they will use whichever transport method is available, and still go even if their preferred transport method isn't available.

Given that the Bristol Beacon went massively over budget, due to a lack of risk assessment, what actions are you taking to analyse the risk of the arena not being economically viable?



## QUESTION PQ29

**Subject: Equity and Inclusion Policy**

**Question submitted by: Margaret Page**

BCCs Policy and Strategic Framework commits to

- Improve safety, challenge sexism and misogyny and improve services and workplace requirements to consider womens needs and circumstances
- eliminate instances of indirect discrimination and harassment motivated by hostility towards protected characteristics ... sex, race/ethnicity, religion or belief, sexual orientation... and ‘gender reassignment’.

In order to make this happen BCC will:

- Listen to people’s lived experience and take it into account when we make decisions
- Promote diversity in the widest possible sense, where different backgrounds, experiences and ways of thinking are genuinely valued.”

**HOWEVER THESE COMMITMENTS ARE INCONSISTENT WITH HOW BCC HAS RESPONDED TO OUR CONCERNS OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS:**

A year ago (July 5 2022) BCC Full Council passed a silver motion entitled ‘Trans Rights are Human Rights’. The motion is based on gender ideology and begins with the highly contentious statement that ‘trans women are women and ‘trans men are men’. It goes on to suggest that employees, organisations funded by the council or contracting for services who do not share these beliefs (for example they belief that sex is binary and cannot be changed) are ‘transphobic’ and on these grounds should be disciplined, lose their funding or contract to provide services with BCC.

Representations have been made drawing attention to the lack of legal basis for the motion, and the erasure of single sex spaces-at many full council meetings since this motion was passed, by individuals and organisations representing lesbians, and by women and men who do not subscribe to gender identity ideology. In FOIs, and statements we have highlighted how damaging this motion would be to users of public services, services funded by BCC, and employees not subscribing to these beliefs. In a corporate complaint we have drawn to attention its questionable legal basis and the absence of adequate and accurate legal advice to support it. Our representations draw from the lived experience of lesbians, and in particular young lesbians, women and girls who value single sex spaces and services, and concerned parents whose children are being taught gender identity ideology in local primary and secondary schools.

**1. What will BCC now do to listen to the lived experience of those who value single sex spaces and services, who believe that sex is binary, immutable and biologically defined, in order to facilitate “good relations” between gender critical employees and service providers, and those who subscribe to gender ideology, to ensure freedom of expression and that the needs of all protected groups are met?**

**2. How will BCC demonstrate that our views and ways of thinking are genuinely valued and taken into account in delivering BCCs equity and inclusion policy?**



**QUESTION PQ30**

**Subject: Tree Preservation Order**

**Question submitted by: Mark Ashdown**

"There are more than 5,000 trees in the city that are protected with a Tree Preservation Order (TPO). Many more meet the requirements for a TPO but are not protected. However, Bristolians do not know how to ask for a tree to be protected with a TPO.

In light of the Climate and Ecological Emergencies, and the Council's commitment to doubling the tree canopy, will the Mayor now publish guidance setting out how to apply for trees to be protected by a TPO, including who is responsible for dealing with the request and the timescale and process for a decision to be made (including the use of TEMPO template currently used by officers)?"



**QUESTION PQ31**

**Subject: SNCI Boundaries**

**Question submitted by: Mark Ashdown**

Question to the Cabinet lead for Development Management

Regarding incorrect SNCI boundaries

When the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Map (the Map) was adopted in July 2014, it failed to show the correct boundaries of the following Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCIs):

1. BC1 – Airport Road.
2. BC16 – Brislington Meadows.
3. BC49 – Malago Valley.
4. BC54 – Novers Common.
5. BC64 – St Anne’s Valley.
6. BC80 - Pigeonhouse Stream and adjacent Meadows.
7. BC108 – Bonnington Walk.

According to government guidance and to the Designated Sites Protocol adopted by the Council, SNCIs may only be altered or de-selected by a Local Sites Partnership (LSP) ‘if their nature conservation interest deteriorates to such an extent that they no longer qualify as Local Sites’. As the LSP had not altered or de-selected these SNCIs at the time and as they have not been altered or de-selected since, their boundaries as shown on the Map are incorrect.

We have presented compelling evidence both to the Mayor’s office and to Council officers that the Map is incorrect. We have also repeatedly pointed out that, as the Map does not form part of the current development plan (also called the local plan) – as confirmed by statute, case law and the Planning Inspectorate - it can be corrected by a simple resolution by Full Council. Despite this, the administration refuses to correct this error.

We have even submitted a petition to the Council requesting that the Map be corrected but this has been rejected for supposed ‘technical’ reasons. We have set out our arguments as to why this is not the case but to no avail. Be this as it may, the fact is that the Map is wrong and needs correcting.

Question

Will the Cabinet Lead for Development Management, now take steps to amend the Map so that the correct boundaries of the SNCIs listed above are shown?

