

Public Forum

Date: Tuesday, 9 January 2024



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3. Public Questions Received

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PP 01 Stop Bristol City Council from taking a % of your Turnover if you're a mobile park trader (518 signatures)

Today (December 7th), the council announced that

“We're launching an opportunity for all pitches to start trading from April 2024. The tender process will start in November 2023 and will run until the middle of January “

After been on a pitch in Bristol for 3 years and receiving the new form to reapply to stay on the pitch by increasing my bid by an astonishing amount, it's clear this seems to be money orientated for the Councils benefit and to my surprise they're now asking for a percentage of my Overheads too!

As a small business trader, I find this to be completely outrageous and emphasises that they clearly want the person who bids the most money and the person who will give away the biggest percentage of their profits.

This will affect small business traders who are trying to make a living and it will also push them out if they can not afford to do this.

Immediate action needs to be taken regarding this so the council cannot take from traders fighting to stay open and also not stating anything about this publicly.

STATEMENT PS 01

Submitted by Jenny Ross

Title: Four-Fact Statement

Good afternoon, I think it is important that this chamber be made aware of four related facts.

Fact one: 2023 was the hottest year on record.

Fact two: Animal agriculture is one of the largest sources of greenhouse gas emissions and the single biggest cause of land use change, which makes the impacts of a warming world all the worse.

Fact three: The obvious solution is recognised by the Council's own 'Bristol Good Food 2030' document, which states that 'Reducing meat and dairy consumption is key to mitigating severe climate change impact'.

Fact four: Unlike various others, including Exeter, Norwich, Oxfordshire, this council has not prioritised a reduction of these animal products where it has influence. If we are to be serious in responding to the climate crisis with all tools available, this must change.

STATEMENT PS 02

Submitted by Pam Patterson

Title: Three Asks Statement

The government's Climate Change Committee has said “we must reduce the amount of meat we eat by 20–50% in order for the UK to reach net zero by 2050”. This is a significant goal, and one that the council can support in three ways:

- Committing to 100% plant-based food in its internal catering.
- Making plant-based menu options the default option wherever the council has influence.
- Promoting plant-based eating to residents of the city and removing meat and dairy advertising in bus stop shelters.

These are not, as the mayor suggested in December, about “forcing people to eat particular foods”. They are instead practical and realistic steps that would show that the city is serious about its claim to be world-leading in terms of responding to climate change.

STATEMENT PS 03

Submitted by Jen Smith

Title: LGO Decisions

Statement for Agenda Item 14

One of the LGO decisions in this paper relates to an upheld complaint I made regarding a failure to implement the contents of an EHCP.

As it was, the LGO was only able to consider a month of missing provision rather than most of an academic year. This is because I had lodged a Sendist appeal. The LGO is unable to consider complaints made regarding EHCP provision when there is an appeal in. So in this respect, the council got off lucky.

I find it remarkable that in the paper the Bristol Complaints Manager summary says: 'We also did not oppose the Tribunal application...'

This is remarkable because Bristol City Council has opposed every one of my four Sendist tribunal appeals which relates to them.

Three were eventually settled through the working document process. This is an arduous and time consuming process whereby the council's legal representative and the parent dances back and forth until they agree or it goes to a tribunal hearing.

It's worth councillors bearing in mind that until recently, the Sendist tribunal process was taking as long as a year from when an appeal was lodged to a hearing. This potentially leaves children and young people a whole year of their lives without the support they need in order to access their basic legal right to education. I suspect in some cases, it leaves pupils without a school to go to.

I believe the appeal the council is referring to not opposing in this document is the one that actually went as far as a hearing in front of a judge.

I'm no longer waiting for some of that provision to be implemented because the way council staff treated my child was so disgraceful, for our own well-being I took the decision never to interact with particular toxic department again. If democratic services requires more clarity around this 'for legal reasons' I am happy to supply a copy of my social care complaint for publication with this statement?

However, other elements of the provision in the EHCP which was finalised in July 2019 have still NOT been implemented.

This will get more interesting when the next batch of upheld decisions by the LGO against Bristol City Council is released. I have a second upheld complaint.

I think 2024 is going to be an interesting year for Send in Bristol.

STATEMENT PS 04

Submitted by Hasina Khan

Title: Bristol City Council, swallow your pride and join the call to end the genocide

Having the privilege of influence and choosing not to use it to save even a single life is murderous.

Having the opportunity to be the voice of the voiceless and choosing to ignore them is evil hearted.

Choosing to see white lives as superior is most obviously racist.

Supporting the brutal occupier is to continue supporting the brutal colonial project

Ignoring 75 years of ethnic cleansing whilst pretending to believe in and practice equality is the biggest lie.

It's not the time for arrogance to follow deliberate ignorance.

It's the time for humility to follow lost humanity and call for an end to:

the killing and death by starvation

death by dehydration

death by disease

have you heard us call for a ceasefire, an end to the bombs? An end to the destruction?

It's time to call for the 2 million Palestinians locked in the Gaza concentration camp to be free.

Equality for all Palestinians

An end to Islamophobia

An end to occupation

An end to UK backed genocide

We are calling for peace, justice and equality.

And we are calling on Bristol City Council to admit their mistakes and do the same.

In our thousands and in our millions, we are all Palestinians..

STATEMENT PS 05

Submitted by Paul Becker

Title: Golden motion on empty homes

I support this motion.

Expanding the resources and remit of the empty homes team seems like a very cost effective way to address housing need without overloading the planning process (especially as apparently applications aren't being sent to one of the committees for some reason?)

STATEMENT PS 06

Submitted by Nigel Varley

Title: Gilton House, Brislington

We, as residents of Gilton House, Brislington: a block of supported council housing for the over-60s, believe that the timing of the renovation and fire safety work, started in July 2022 and still unfinished, has resulted in unlawful discrimination against us.

We consider the original Equalities Impact Assessment for the block's refurbishment, made in February 2022 but which we have only recently seen, contains comments on age which are insulting and discriminatory. It seems that this EIA was not updated when the project was expanded to replace inflammable insulation cladding.

The Equalities Impact Assessment for the entire city-wide fire safety project, presented to the December 2023 Cabinet meeting, fails to recognise the disproportionate effect of the removal of insulation for an extended period and into the winter on older and more vulnerable people with limited incomes. We have been left with cold homes and greatly increased energy costs with potential risks to our health and well-being.

We believe therefore that Bristol City Council has failed to meet the needs of our protected characteristic and is therefore in breach of the 2010 Equalities Act. We request and require compensation to mitigate the effects of ageist, unlawful discrimination.

I am making the statement on behalf of the following residents of Gilton House.

Theresa Fry, Michael Scott, Barbara Dalby, Imelda Trepka, Christopher Jones, Barabara Rudd, Joy & Stephen Johnson, Michael Hunt, Eve Gardiner, Poturala Marek, Terry & Jennifer Willies, T. Salbey, A.E. Batten, Nigel Varley, Brenda Bevan, Irene Evans, Brian & Rachel Webb, Jeff Sutton, Susan Smith, Helga Collins, Jenny Bewdley, Larry Symister, Paul Hemmings, Terry Sanderson, Poppy & John Catley.

STATEMENT PS 07

Submitted by Katy Taylor

Title: A call for change: Value the Caring economy

We call upon Bristol City Council to commit to Valuing the Caring Economy.

Caring is the fundamental infrastructure of society; it is the heart of all community. We have all been cared for before and it is highly likely we will be cared for again in the future. We've also all cared for someone, whether it was looking after a sick neighbour, family member or friend, caring for a dying parent or looking after children.

Caring is Everybody's Business and yet it is not always visible or valued.

In Bristol, 42,300 people have caring responsibilities. Women are more likely to be carers than men and more than a third of carers provide over 50 hours of care per week.

In 2023-23, more than a third (38%) of carers in Bristol said they were providing more care because local services are reducing or closing.

More than nine nurseries have closed in Bristol since 2021, in just one example, and there we know that some children living in poverty won't get a warm meal without access to early years education.

We know that some women will never experience the same economic security their partners due to an unequal leave, and inflexible employment conditions that often mean carers must choose between caring and working.

We know there are disabled young people across the city, unable to reach their full potential because of limited care packages, based on care assessments that don't accurately note the full amount of care that's required.

We also know it is outside of Bristol City Council's gift to reverse years of central government cuts or to change central legislation. We know there is very little money for new investment.

However, we also know that a caring economy makes financial as well as ethical sense.

A caring economy invests in maternity, nursery and childcare, education, health and social care. It supports the work and well-being of all those delivering care through provision of transport, training and skills. Caring economics rewards those who work in the caring economy rather than so many having to rely on low wages and food banks.

We know there is value for money in supporting care workers so they remain in their job, provide skilled care and remain healthy and happy in themselves. There is economic research about the value of providing affordable child care, adequate social care and flexible working conditions that frees up women to enter into the workforce and still look after children, parents, others.

I submit this statement on behalf of a campaign alliance of nine organizations: Bristol Women's Voice, The West of England Centre for Inclusive Living, Chinese Community Wellbeing Society, Co-Produced Care, March of the Mummies, Bristol Black Carers, Women's Budget Group, the Bristol Women's Commission and the Women in Business Charter.

Together we have drawn up a manifesto for change across Bristol and the west of England. All of our asks are within the Local Authorities remit. All of them are informed by the voices of the diverse communities we work with and for, all of whom are impacted by the caring economy, as all in Bristol are.

We ask that you commit to the caring economy and in doing so, you commit to ensuring that the caring economy is considered as key infrastructure to all new developments, across policy, industry, places and communities.

We call upon you to commit to implementing the specifics [within our manifesto](#), all of which are within the local authority's power, and to demonstrate leadership on this agenda.

The council already demonstrates some commitment to the caring economy, but we urge you to go further to increase all our communities' wellbeing, to address a key barrier to women's equity and to sustainably boost our economy.

STATEMENT PS 08

Submitted by Mubashar Chaudhry

Title: In support of Gaza Israel conflict petition

I thanks to all those who supported the petition of lighting city hall with Palestinian Flags. I also thanks to all the councillors who took ethical stance of supporting this petition and cease fire. By showing colours of Palestinian Flag on our council building may not ease the sufferings of innocent civilians of Gaza but surely will give comfort to all of the Bristolians that our representatives have taken the right decisions and are standing on the right side of history and are standing for humanity.

STATEMENT PS 09

Submitted by Hilary Rydon

Title: Golden Motion by the Green Party

I write to confirm I strongly support the above motion proposed by Tony Dyer to maximise the supply of housing from existing buildings and council land.

This motion can save our green spaces and bring thousands of homes to those in need.

SNCI'S sites such as Brislington Meadows should not be lost to housing and other such sites across the city should be protected.

The Countryside Charity - CPRE states nationally 1.2 million homes could be built on 23,000 sites of previously developed land.

With an increased demand for housing especially council homes in Bristol this Green Motion should be adopted.

STATEMENT PS 10

Submitted by Christina Biggs

Title: Funding of rail-bus interchange for MetroWest stations

FoSBR has been concerned for some time at a lack of interest in ensuring opportunities for bus - rail interchange at our local stations. This has come to a head with the new Ashley Down station.

Construction of the new Ashley Down station began in March 2023 and is progressing well. However no attempt has been made to integrate the station with local bus services. In fact Bristol City council initially stated that the location of existing stops was adequate and no further action was required. We find this both remarkable and concerning.

The current set up is wholly inadequate. There are bus stops in the area, but they are too far away to provide a proper interchange. For example, there is only a northbound bus stop on Muller Road underneath the railway bridge with no apparent plans to install a southbound one. Similarly, on Shaldon Road there is only a northbound bus stop. We understand that Bristol City Council has even considered removing this!

These stops serve routes to Southmead Hospital, Lockleaze and Eastville. Southmead Hospital has significant problems with parking and congestion and is an important destination for people around the region. Lockleaze and Eastville are areas of significant deprivation, where car ownership is relatively low. This limits access to employment opportunities. Bus journeys to are often slow as a result of congestion and insufficient regularity whereas train journeys are rapid. Existing rail services already serve many employment areas, such as the City Centre, Severnside and Yate. Interchange at the few places where this is possible can allow journeys to other locations, such as at Bristol Parkway or UWE where MetroWest and local buses can enable journeys to Emerson's Green Science Park and Cribbs Causeway.

We have argued that better interchange between bus and train at Ashley Down station would enable easier and quicker journeys to Southmead Hospital from further afield, and better access to employment from local areas. It would also allow people to make a variety of journeys by public transport that are currently difficult or unrealistic. At present the absence of a stop in one direction for both bus services passing near the station means there is a long gap between stops and a considerable walk is required up steep hills. This does not encourage people to travel by public transport.

In response to our most recent questions to Full Council, officers have argued that there is no room for a bus interchange on Muller Road, and that we should wait for the Muller Road Phase 2 bus lane consultation. As can be seen on our map, we have suggested a solution where one missing stop is placed on Shaldon Road (S4, in blue) and another is on Muller Road (S1, in blue). Although Shaldon Road has driveways in the area marked, the bus stop could be made slightly shorter as on Church Road. The argument that the bus stop on Muller Road would hold up the traffic is neglecting the modal shift away from the car and towards public transport that would occur if robust rail-bus interchange were set up. We believe a culture shift is needed which prioritises public transport and disincentivises the over-reliance on the car that we see today in Bristol.

We understand that Bristol City Council is now starting to design the rail-bus interchange for Ashley Down. However, to achieve an optimal design with full adjacent disabled access requires a secure budget as well as clear governance. At present the siting of bus stops is with the local authority and it is not clear what the allocated budget would be.

We urge Full Council to support a robust means of governance and partnership with transport providers, co-operating with the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority and contributing transport levy and CAZ income to boost public transport and in particular to streamline the provision of rail-bus interchange, starting with Ashley Down and extending to all West of England rail stations.

Christina Biggs, Rob Dixon and David Netherwood, FoSBR Bristol Rail Campaign

Figure: Map of Ashley Down station and Muller Road showing existing bus stops (in black) and suggested bus stops (in blue) as well as suggested locations for signage (S)



STATEMENT PS 11

Submitted by David Redgewell and Gordon Richardson

Title: The of City and County of Bristol new committee structure

Regarding the constitution of City and county of Bristol, whilst we welcome the need the new committee structure but despite representation to the committee in writing and in person. We raised the importance of Bristol city council being properly represented at the city Regional level with the west of England mayoral combined Authority and North Somerset council function as Regional planning and Transport Authority Economics Development skills and Education with the local Enterprise partnership be abolished and merger into west of England mayoral combined Authority with North Somerset council.

With just one reference in the council report in the joint scrutiny commission of the west of England mayoral Authority and North Somerset council.

Membership,

By no reference to role of leader and Deputy leader of Bristol city council

On the west of England combined Authority committee west of England joint committee,

Western Gateway partnership or the Western Gateway Transport Board

That councillor Don Alexander is the Regional chair, or the integrated Health commission Board for North Somerset, South Gloucestershire and Bristol city council.

With the importance of city region and Regions by National UK government levelling up Act, And the labour party his majesty opposition Take back control Policy papers and similar Regional governance policy's from the Green Party and the Liberal Democrats party.

It is of great concern that the new city council proposed structure do not address the structural in which Bristol city council works with the rest of the city Region.

We also note that the Reorganisation committee take no evidence on the new proposed structure of the Governance and the west of England mayoral combined Authority metro mayor Dan Norris, Who is responsible for Region planning, Transport Authority, Economic Development Tourism and Higher Education skills.

This issue need to clearly addressed be the city and county of Bristol committee system is put in place.

We welcome the area committee structure as South Gloucestershire county council and Somerset unity council have such structures. We would hope that area committees could also be used by the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and planning Authority.

To discuss Public bus service and raise consultation issues on bus services charges before their carried out or by First group plc buses or stagecoach west or Network rail or First Group plc Great Western Railway company to present details of New railway station like Ashley Down or Henbury on the boundary with South Gloucestershire county council are cycling and walking routes.

Example if we had area committee now the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council would have consulted the people of Ashton vale estate, Oldbury court estate, Stapleton Broomhill Fishponds the Dings and Brislington St Anne's park on the loss of their bus services .

But also input on local cycling or walking schemes or Highway improvement like the proposed Brislington bypass by the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority. But also for example in South Gloucestershire county council these area committee have been used to discuss pre planning issues, planning application, Wessex water pennton now owners of Bristol water, south west water and Bournemouth water or Wales and utilities and Western Power National Grid on power issues.

Or services from Bristol city council like street cleaning, graffiti removal, fly tipping, public toilets improvements, Park and Gardens, sport facilities. Housing issues Green spaces and Green Belt. Bristol local plan consultation, Avon and Somerset police British Transport police or port police, Port of Bristol, or Bristol city council as Harbour Authority or any neighbourhood issues and consultation on any cross boundary issues that affect the area with South Gloucestershire county council in the North of the city Region or Banes or North Somerset in the south of the city Region.

Area committee work very well in South Gloucestershire county council and Somerset unity council is set up community networks it would be a good idea to look at community stakeholders participation in the neighbouring Authority's for best practice in South west England Swindon Borough Council has area Parish councils that work like area committees.

With regards to working with the west of England mayoral combined Authority and mayor Dan Norris we do think that area committee are the way forward Public transport user consultation. Regional planning issues effect local communities and skills.

Their needs to be more community engagement in Bristol city council services and meetings, whilst Somerset unity council, South Gloucestershire county council, Gloucestershire county council have hybrid meeting of committees and full council allowing more disabled and older people to participate in city council meetings. Even Yeovil Town Council has hybrid meetings.

All are committee venues must be accessible to people with disabilities and hybrid meeting options should be part of the arrangements .

Bristol city council and West of England mayoral combined Authority have not yet modernisation the way it meets.

Bristol city council so far expect every resident or community or stakeholders group to make their way to city Hall for meetings and make statement and not yet set hybrid meetings. So residents and stakeholders could join a meeting on line more residents would communicate with council which is the case in South Gloucestershire county council and North Somerset council.

The west of England mayoral combined Authority has not modernised either. For an Authority working with North Somerset council covers an area of major parts of Somerset and Gloucestershire, Greater Bristol and Bath and a lot of very important meetings are held in private, Transport and Housing Board Bus service improvement plan Enhanced partnership Board, even scrutiny commissions. Whilst other combined planning and Transport Authorities meet in Public West Yorkshire, West Midlands, Greater Manchester combined Authority, Liverpool City Region.

Their also the need to address the area of funding services and the new for more local community organisations and trusts working in Partnership with Bristol city council to provide local services,

At a Regional level with Western Gateway Transport Board and Partnership with the west of England mayoral combined Authority which now the levelling up Bill is an Act should now begin the progress of the local Enterprise partnership, and North Somerset council joining the west of England mayoral combined Authority in 2025 for the mayoral Elections.

But within the committee structure it got to be clear who is representing the city of county of Bristol on the combined Authority and the role of leader and Deputy leader of council in Decision making meetings at the west of England mayoral combined Authority committee and joint committee.

With the ending of the Elected mayor's role in Bristol it's important to see the west of England mayoral combined Authority with North Somerset council represent by the Regional to make sure Greater Bristol and Bath city region voice is held at UK government and European and international level when Dealing with Public resources for Region plans and project working with business and stakeholders.

City office and one city plan including major Transport and levelling up money like metro west railway or future west mass transit system, or Regeneration sites like Bristol Temple meads station and Temple Quarter or western Harbour, or Filwood in South Bristol.

It's very important that Bristol city council or the city and county of Bristol functions at Community and area partnership level at city council level and city region level and Regional level to UK government.

We need a modern progressive council and more decisions made at local, city wide or west of England mayoral combined Authority or western Gateway Transport Board partnership and Peninsula Transport Board level.

STATEMENT PS 12

Submitted by Danica Priest

Title: Golden motion

This proposal by the Green Party marks a significant stride in tackling the acute housing crisis gripping our communities. The figures highlighted underscore a stark reality: a significant number of families in Bristol struggle to secure suitable housing while numerous properties sit idle or underutilized.

I hear developers frequently mention the lengthy housing waiting list when seeking permission for homes that won't benefit those on the list. Oddly, they never cite the 13,500 homes with planning permission that still haven't seen the light of day. I wonder why?

Despite what developer-funded think tanks preach on social media, empty homes aren't a good thing. They contribute to housing shortages, exacerbate inequality, and drive up property prices.

The greenest home is the home that has already been built and it's often the quickest solution too. Expanding our housing stock requires a grassroots approach to make a meaningful impact on the waiting list. We need to be focusing on equitable housing distribution and utilization rather than solely on new construction.

However, this isn't a replacement for new construction; it's an addition to the existing local plan. Reviving 5,251 empty homes could nearly triple our yearly new housing supply in one fell swoop. So to those that don't support this motion I say: why the selective concern about supply only when it's lucrative?

This should be something we all agree on. This motion draws a line between those committed to solving the housing crisis and those prioritizing developer profits. Consider the supporters of this motion; their stance will echo in the upcoming local election.

In essence, this motion recognizes the urgency of the housing crisis and proposes pragmatic, multi-faceted solutions that go beyond conventional approaches. It's a call to action for the city administration to leverage existing resources, engage in collaborative initiatives, and prioritize the needs of its residents and the environment over the interests of the property industry.

I urge everyone to support this motion.

STATEMENT PS 13

WITHDRAWN

STATEMENT PS 14

Submitted by Alderman Mhairi Threlfall

Title: Childcare is infrastructure.

It is essential to the economy; it is essential to breaking down inequality barriers; it is essential to enabling women in work; and is essential to give our children the best start in life. However, it is increasingly becoming something that is accessible only to the most privileged. In Bristol, we have 18 month long waiting lists and the average nursery place for an under 2 is now costing around £90 a day.

£16,096.24 is the cost of childcare for one year for 4 days a week in Bristol.

Every single penny I pay does not go into the pockets of shareholders or investment bankers who have increasingly become interested in investing in childcare - but instead towards a free places for the most in need.

We need to protect our maintained nurseries, especially when Councils up and down the country, including our own, are haunted by the spectre of a section 114 notice. Maintained nurseries play an essential role, in supporting our early years ecosystem, but in offering parents without much hope, access to childcare.

Nationally the women's budget group, the early years alliance and charities like Pregnant then Screwed are working hard to address the challenge of underfunding in the early years and childcare sector.

However, any changes to the childcare sector will take time, yet parents, childcare workers and children are struggling now.

That's why I urge you to back the Bristol Women's Voice alliance manifesto on the caring economy. Even if this is not your interest, please read it, and think about what can be put in place using the powers the Council and the Combined authority have in protecting our front line, and improving access to childcare for all parents in the city.

STATEMENT PS 15

Submitted by Mary Page

Title: Item 13 Members' Allowances.

I note the report regarding Members' allowances under the new committee working model. I also note that the role of Chair of the Public Rights of Way and Greens does not attract any special responsibility allowance unlike the other committee chairs. As a Bristol North West resident who has followed and supported the Stoke Lodge TVG (town and village and green) application I am surprised that the chair of such an important public facing committee might be perceived to be unimportant because of the lack of financial recognition.

This is especially important as I note there is a second TVG application in Bristol North West that of Ridgehill where in the space of half an hour on a weekday I noted over 15 people using the unadopted right of way. It is therefore likely that another large workload will be heading to the desk of the chair of this committee.

Item 16 Constitution for the Committee Model

I note the report on the Constitution for the Committee Model. Having attended many of the public discussion meetings, I wish to highlight that this is mostly a compromise between the wish of the Green Party Group councillors to devolve power to the public and the Labour Group administration who wish to retain central power at any cost.

STATEMENT PS 16

Submitted by Sarah Freeman

Title: Bristol city council allotment consultation 11/12/23 – 22/1/24

Ellie King Cabinet Member with responsibility for Public Health and Communities

The Council's has acted in an underhand/unprofessional manner when it came to consulting the tenants about these proposals.

The consultation period was over the Christmas/New Year holiday period, a time when the Council offices are quiet with a lot of staff on annual leave. A time when tenants would not usually attend to their plots as they are away or due to bad weather.

The consultation has not been widely distributed with a lot of tenants not aware of what is going on. In other words, there has been an overall lack of communication by the Council. A small poster placed on the gate to an allotment site is not consultation.

The 1950 Allotment Act Section 10(1) states:

"An allotment shall be let as such rent as a tenant may reasonably be expected to pay for the land".

What the Council are proposing is not reasonable. The allotment rents increase could be considered unlawful. See below

(Reference: Case: R (Wood and Turley) v Leeds City Council)

Parks and Green Space Strategy

The above strategy states: *"We will establish at least 50 hectares of new trees and woodland within 10 years of the adoption of this strategy by identifying new sites for tree planting, continuing our successful grant funding programme and planting trees through our One Tree Per Child programme and other volunteering activities."*

The proposed allotment rules state: "all trees to be removed from plots except the permitted dwarf root stock fruit trees. Maximum of 3 per plot".

So, on one hand you get the Council stating they will be planting new trees, then on the other hand they want allotment tenants to remove fruit trees.

The Council are saying one thing and doing another.

This is not very "GREEN".

Bristol Health and Wellbeing Strategy states:

"Parks and green spaces are identified as important places for sport and healthy activity. "

"We will expand the number of allotments and increase the number of people experiencing the significant health benefits of food growing", (pg29/30)

The proposed increases in rent will make them unaffordable to many people. Making them unaffordable will not make them more accessible to people because they will be too expensive.

By increasing the rents by these unjustified and unreasonable amounts, could exclude the very people who need them most.

Conclusion

I urge the Council to rethink their proposed changes to the Bristol Allotment Rent and Tenancy Agreement.

Full Council – 9 January 2024

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	Mhairi Threlfall	Family Hubs & the Social Care Precept
PQ02	Claire Charras	Money for Care in all Strategies
PQ03	Katy Taylor	Will you value the caring economy?
PQ04	Troy Tanska	Time to Care with Dignity
PQ05	Sue Cohen	Social Care Workers
PQ06	Liz Potter	Nursery Provision in Crisis
PQ07	Dahlia von Carolath	Council Accountability for Contractor Performance
PQ08	Sophie Peart	Worker Conditions in Commissioned Contracts
PQ09	Bonny Chung	Coproduction with Carers
PQ10	Josephine Benefield	Gaza Ceasefire
PQ11	Hasina Khan	Gaza Ceasefire
PQ12	Suzanne Audrey	Mayor's TED Talk
PQ13	Suzanne Audrey	Fujitsu Post Office Horizon Scandal
PQ14	Jenny Etches	Uncollected Waste and Recycling
PQ15	Emma Swain	Blenheim Court
PQ16	Sally Kent	Special School Places
PQ17	Caroline Gooch	St Christopher's School
PQ18	Mubashar Chaudhry	City Hall Lights
PQ19	Jack Whittaker	Pitches for Traders in Bristol Docks and Parks
PQ20	Mike Oldreive	Value and Ethics Sub-Committee
PQ21	David Redgewell	Transport Levy
PQ22	Jen Smith	Homechoice / Housing Associations
PQ23	Danica Priest	Development Control
PQ24	Danica Priest	Committee Model
PQ25	Dan Ackroyd	Value and Ethics Sub-Committee
PQ26	Dan Ackroyd	Barton House
PQ27	Leona Dennehy	Pitches for Traders in Bristol Docks and Parks
PQ28	Shaban Ali	Barton House
PQ29	Laura Stone	Barton House
PQ30	Andy Watt	Barton House
PQ31	Cam Hayward	Daventry Road School
PQ32	Cam Hayward	Redcatch Park Tennis Courts
PQ33	Nuh Sharif	Barton House
PQ34	Jez Olpin	Tender Submissions
PQ35	Becky Watkins	Pitches for Traders in Bristol Docks and Parks
PQ36	TRESA CIC	Totterdown Bridge Tower Block

QUESTION PQ 01

Subject: Family Hubs & the Social Care Precept

Question submitted by: Mhairi Threlfall

Integrated Family Hubs offer information, advice and help to all families in Bristol, and provide a holistic one stop shop model supporting the needs of carers, care workers and those who may be cared for. It was positive to see the council awarded £4.8million to establish 3 new family hubs in Bristol. However, there is a real opportunity where childcare and social care already co-exist to expand and build on this model without a huge amount of investment required.

The Belonging Strategy set a target for Family Hubs by 2024. What will you do in the short, medium and long-term to retain and increase the provision of Family Hubs in Bristol?



QUESTION PQ 02

Subject: Money for Care in all Strategies

Question submitted by: Claire Charras

Will you ensure that childcare and social care are articulated as infrastructure in local and strategic plans – e.g. major planning applications and all new employment, training, and regeneration developments - going forward as part of a commitment to the caring economy?



QUESTION PQ 03

Subject: Will you value the caring economy?

Question submitted by: Katy Taylor

We call upon Bristol City Council to commit to Valuing the Caring Economy.

Caring is the fundamental infrastructure of society; it is the heart of all community. We have all been cared for before and it is highly likely we will be cared for again in the future. We've also all cared for someone, whether it was looking after a sick neighbour, family member or friend, caring for a dying parent or looking after children.

Caring is Everybody's Business and yet it is not always visible or valued.

In Bristol, 42,300[i] people have caring responsibilities. Women are more likely to be carers than men[ii] and more than a third of carers provide over 50 hours of care per week[iii].

In 2023-23, more than a third (38%) of carers in Bristol said they were providing more care because local services are reducing or closing.[iv]

More than nine nurseries have closed in Bristol since 2021, in just one example, and there we know that some children living in poverty won't get a warm meal without access to early years education.

We know that some women will never experience the same economic security their partners due to an unequal leave, and inflexible employment conditions that often mean carers must choose between caring and working.

We know there are disabled young people across the city, unable to reach their full potential because of limited care packages, based on care assessments that don't accurately note the full amount of care that's required.

We also know it is outside of Bristol City Council's gift to reverse years of central government cuts or to change central legislation. We know there is very little money for new investment.

However, we also know that a caring economy makes financial as well as ethical sense.

A caring economy invests in maternity, nursery and childcare, education, health and social care. It supports the work and well-being of all those delivering care through provision of transport, training and skills. Caring economics rewards those who work in the caring economy rather than so many having to rely on low wages and food banks.

We know there is value for money in supporting care workers so they remain in their job, provide skilled care and remain healthy and happy in themselves. There is economic research about the value of providing affordable child care, adequate social care and flexible working conditions that frees up women to enter into the workforce and still look after children, parents, others.

I submit this statement on behalf of a campaign alliance of nine organisations: Bristol Women's Voice, The West of England Centre for Inclusive Living, Chinese Community Wellbeing Society, Co-Produced



Care, March of the Mummies, Bristol Black Carers, Women’s Budget Group, the Bristol Women’s Commission and the Women in Business Charter.

Together we have drawn up a manifesto for change across Bristol and the west of England. All of our asks are within the Local Authorities remit. All of them are informed by the voices of the diverse communities we work with and for, all of whom are impacted by the caring economy, as all in Bristol are.

We ask that you commit to the caring economy and in doing so, you commit to ensuring that the caring economy is considered as key infrastructure to all new developments, across policy, industry, places and communities.

We call upon you to commit to implementing the specifics within our manifesto, all of which are within the local authority’s power, and to demonstrate leadership on this agenda.

The council already demonstrates some commitment to the caring economy, but we urge you to go further to increase all our communities’ wellbeing, to address a key barrier to women’s equity and to sustainably boost our economy.

My question:

1. The council sets a good example of commitment to the caring economy through its current inclusion of paid time for caring as part of their contracts. This time might be taken for caring for adults as well as, for example, childcare emergencies. However, not all employees know about this and therefore do not know to ask for it. Managers aren’t consistently trained in this. For many women there is still significant stigma around asking for time off to care and, furthermore, this can lead to part time workers being prevented from accessing promotions and higher salaried work. It is notable that parental leave in the council remains at the statutory minimum of two weeks. What steps will the council take to further invest in the caring economy for those it employs so that those with caring responsibilities are support and can access equitable opportunities?



QUESTION PQ 04

Subject: Time to Care with Dignity

Question submitted by: Troy Tanska

We know that people requiring care aren't getting the support they need. means hundreds left struggling to go to the toilet, eat, get dressed or wash because they can't do these things unaided. There is a large body of research now that evidenced the lack of dignity, humanity and effectiveness of the fifteen and short appointments, impacting on the lives of people and their families, as well as leading to longer term costs relating to isolation, loneliness and ill health.

'Short appointments also have a detrimental impact on worker well-being, and it is worth noting that the risk of suicide amongst carers is 70% higher than the national average.'[ii]

Will the council commit to ensuring all care appointments delivered as part of its contracts and those of the integrated Care Board are a minimum of one hour?



QUESTION PQ 05

Subject: Social Care Workers

Question submitted by: Sue Cohen

The average salary for social care staff in Bristol is 8% less than the already low national average. 1 in 10 social care jobs are vacant in the city and many continue to leave the service for better pay and conditions in supermarkets and warehouses for example, with a knock on effect on primary health care, mental health services and social care provision. It is welcome news that in 2024 the council will be adopting a single commissioning framework that aims to improve standards and increase local supply so that funding is not overly consumed by those large private companies that profiteer at the expense of both social care workers and tax payers.

What commitment will the council make to improve the retention, working conditions and pay of social care sector workers in contracts that ensure a minimum of the national living wage, career progression, and include funding to backfill posts so that staff can attend training courses and not have to train in their own time?



QUESTION PQ 06

Subject: Nursery Provision in Crisis

Question submitted by: Liz Potter

What will you do to maintain and increase nursery provision in the city which is at crisis point?



QUESTION PQ 07

Subject: Council Accountability for Contractor Performance

Question submitted by: Dahlia von Carolath

We know the council is a signatory of the West of England Combined Authority's Good Employment Charter and the UNISON's Ethical Care Charter, which signals a strong commitment to decent and equitable working conditions for carers and care workers is to be commended.

What mechanisms are in place, or will you put in place, to ensure all your contractors or consultants are also signatories to these and the Social Care Workforce Race Equality Standard, so you can be sure these standards are upheld across all the council's work?



QUESTION PQ 08

Subject: Worker Conditions in Commissioned Contracts

Question submitted by: Sophie Peart

Will the council commit to ensuring all commissioned contracts ring-fence money to allow for enhanced maternity pay and a period of full pay sick pay/mental health days/menopause support/training?



QUESTION PQ 09

Subject: Coproduction with Carers

Question submitted by: Bonny Chung

The Care Act 2014 specifically includes the concept of co-production in its statutory guidance. What value does the council place on co-production, how does/will this be evident in practice across the provision and development of care in Bristol?



QUESTION PQ 10

Subject: Gaza Ceasefire

Question submitted by: Josephine Benefield

How many men, women and children must die in Gaza from Israeli bombardment and siege before the Mayor of Bristol, Marvin Rees speaks out and calls for an immediate ceasefire?



QUESTION PQ 11

Subject: Gaza Ceasefire

Question submitted by: Hasina Khan

Does it make you feel powerful to know you could have saved lives by calling for a ceasefire and an end of the destruction of the Palestinian people?

Do you see Palestinians as subhuman and not deserving of your concern? If you are not haunted by the screams and cries of the Palestinians you've chosen to ignore, please tell us what you do to block out the screams, cries, suffering and bloody images? The only answer seems to be that you see them as subhuman and not deserving of your concern.



QUESTION PQ 12

Subject: Mayor's TED Talk

Question submitted by: Suzanne Audrey

In September 2022, you said: "My Ted talk in Vancouver led to a number of live contacts, not least a tech philanthropist who will be in Bristol in the coming weeks with a commitment to working with three UK cities, meeting with our community organisations with a commitment to putting real finance into their social innovation."

Question 1. Please will you give an update on the visit from the tech philanthropist and which community organisations have benefitted from the commitment of real finance for their social innovation.



QUESTION PQ 13

Subject: Fujitsu Post Office Horizon Scandal

Question submitted by: Suzanne Audrey

I trust that the Mayor, cabinet, councillors and officers of Bristol City Council are aware of the Post Office Horizon scandal and the appalling treatment of more than 700 Post Office managers as a result of Fujitsu's faulty accounting software. A public inquiry began in October 2022 and is ongoing. In Feb 2023, just five months into the inquiry, Bristol City Council appointed Fujitsu as its digital strategic partner for 5 years in a deal valued at up to £25million.

Question 2. Given the involvement of Fujitsu in the Post Office Horizon scandal, and the dreadful impact this has had on people including residents of Bristol, what efforts were made to find a digital strategic partner other than Fujitsu for Bristol City Council?



QUESTION PQ 14

Subject: Uncollected Waste and Recycling

Question submitted by: Jenny Etches

As a resident of Ashley ward who hasn't had their recycling picked up for 4 weeks, please can you ask the Mayor what he intends to do to remedy this situation? It's unacceptable and we should get a council tax rebate as a result.



QUESTION PQ 15

Subject: Blenheim Court

Question submitted by: Emma Swain

Now that the bin collection problem at Blenheim Court appears to have been dealt with could the council advise the current situation with the sewer drain that could allow rodents to enter via the bin store?

I note that the BCC web site is showing works to the footways surrounding Blenheim Court which will be closed for remedial works from 19.1.24 to 2.8.24. The works are to the external cladding and are being managed by Unite Students who operate Blenheim Court. They have confirmed that access to the bin store will not be affected during this period. Please can BBC also confirm that this will not affect their bin collections again in any way during that period?



QUESTION PQ 16

Subject: Special School Places

Question submitted by: Sally Kent

Since the Mayors Election Pledge in 2020 to create 450 new special school places by 2024, BCC has been working with partners to increase the SEND estate in the City. I understand from answers given to my questions to full council in December 2023 that the project has so far delivered 288 specialist places.

Please provide:

1. The name of the settings
2. The additional spaces that have been created within each setting
3. The date that these spaces became available at the setting
4. The type of need that the setting caters for
5. How many spaces the setting has (for each setting).

For example. Compass Point resource base, 6 additional spaces, available from Sep 2023, Autism, 0 spaces

Also, can you provide information on when the council will be in a position to offer the 162 outstanding places and in which settings they will be situated?



QUESTION PQ 17

Subject: St Christopher's School

Question submitted by: Caroline Gooch

The St Christopher's SEND Alliance have twice submitted a detailed case for registering the St Christophers' school site as an Asset of Community Value and twice been refused. Looking at the legislation, none of the exemptions around what can be listed apply, so the only question is whether St Christopher's benefits the community and has a local connection, which the Alliance feel they have more than addressed. Could the council please publish the criteria against which they are scoring as there is no public access to observe this process and very little feedback given?

I understand the government has given the green light for a new free school for SEND provision for 164 pupils by 2026, could the mayor and/or the cabinet member for education outline the process by which a site will be chosen for this school, and will they work with the St Christopher's SEND Alliance on their plans to bring St Christopher's back into educational use as that free school?



QUESTION PQ 18

Subject: City Hall Lights

Question submitted by: Mubashar Chaudhry

Question: Dear Mayor Marvin Rees Congratulations on having a title of OBE. Can you please clarify when you made a decision of lighting city hall with Israel's flag, did you follow any protocol and consulted with councillors? As this action raised conflicts even the Jewish Community whom you have shown solidarity openly condemned this action.

I also ask you what will be your response to the petition of lighting city hall with Palestinian Flag? This Petition secured more than 5K signatures, thousands on the streets are demanding it and most of the councillors are supporting this petition. Also, the Bristol Muslim community is looking forward your solidarity by lighting city hall with Palestinian Flag.



QUESTION PQ 19

Subject: Pitches for Traders in Bristol Docks and Parks

Question submitted by: Jack Whittaker

Can you please tell me why the council is trying to sell off pitches to the highest bidder?

Can you please tell me why this has been implemented without consultation, and apparently without discussion in Council?



QUESTION PQ 20

Subject: Value and Ethics Sub-Committee

Question submitted by: Mike Oldreive

Quite a few questions at the last Full Council weren't answered with the explanation that "These questions have already been covered at Values and Ethics committee."

Public Forum for Full Council meetings has the description "Questions can be about any matter the Council is responsible for or which directly affect the city."

What is the basis for refusing to answer those questions?

To be clear, I think people would have hoped to have the information through other means, including asking at the Value and Ethics committee and through email communication with Senior Officers, rather than taking up the time of this committee, but people are just not receiving clear answers.



QUESTION PQ 21

Subject: Transport Levy

Question submitted by: David Redgewell

Question 1

To mayor Marvin Rees and councillor Don Alexander,

What progress is being made on Negotiations with the west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council, Mayor Dan Norris on the Transport levy to pay for vital bus and Ferry services to be restored in April 2024 in the city and county of Bristol council budget using the clean air zone money and council tax levy working with First group plc Wales and West buses and stagecoach west and other bus operators

To restore bus services to Ashton vale, parts of Bristlington and St Anne's park Dings ,Easton Stapleton Broomhill Fishponds oidbury court Downend Bromley Heath, Southmead to uwe bus station Bristol Parkway railway Aztec west Hortham Alverston Thornbury, Bishopsworth and part of Hengrove and whitchurch estate ,

So of the Poorest communities of Bristol have not access work, schools and colleges universities or basic food shopping, and leisure and Tourists facilities?

Question 2 ,

With the importance of the need for affordable, social Housing and council especially houses designed for disabled people, and the need bring more building and land into housing use with need Housing plan for the Greater Bristol and Bath city region.

What discussion are going on with west of England mayoral combined transport Authority and North Somerset council. Banes and South Gloucestershire county council. Especially in need for new council committee structure leader and Deputy leader to have a close working relationship with the metro mayor Dan Norris and West of England mayoral combined Authority and the local Enterprise partnership and North Somerset council as a west of England mayoral combined Authority member

To have a joint plan that addresses the need of housing of city region with good connection to work school College, university, heath care and shopping and leisure facilities linked to public Transport, similar to the other city Region of the west Midlands combined Authority mayor Andy street, Liverpool City Region mayor Steve Rotherham, Greater Manchester combined Authority mayor Andy Burnham.

And close working with Western Gateway partnership and Transport Board?



QUESTION PQ 22

Subject: Homechoice / Housing Associations

Question submitted by: Jen Smith

Most of the new developments in Bristol with social housing go on to be run by Housing Associations. These are subsequently listed on Homechoice Bristol.

Housing Associations are able to set their own requirements about what they want from prospective tenants, meaning they can disregard order of bids based on their preference of tenant.

This can include things like must be in employment, credit checks and rent up front.

Rent up front for some Housing Association properties can come in at over £1000 and be expected within two days.

Q1. Is this a fair and equitable way of doing it, and do you have a link to any form of EIA for this approach? It would appear to disproportionately affect those on low incomes, Disabled people, women and carers.

Q2. What financial support does Bristol City Council offer to everyone on Homechoice wishing to bid on all available properties but are unable to do so because of large sums of money being a prerequisite by Housing Associations for placing a bid?



QUESTION PQ 23

Subject: Development Control

Question submitted by: Danica Priest

Planning officers have stated that development control committee B was cancelled this month because there weren't any planning applications ready to be reviewed. I'm sure you agree this isn't ideal considering we have a massive planning application backlog and a housing crisis. I appreciate there are issues with staff shortages and a lack of experience in the planning department but can you explain what actions you have taken to ensure no DC committee is cancelled because planning officers have no applications ready to bring forward for determination?



QUESTION PQ 24

Subject: Committee Model

Question submitted by: Danica Priest

Why has the Mayor chosen to have 9 cabinet members when the Committee Model Working Group has decided that only 8 policy committees are needed to conduct the council's business?



QUESTION PQ 25

Subject: Value and Ethics Sub-Committee

Question submitted by: Dan Ackroyd

At the previous Full Council for multiple questions the answer given was "These questions have already been covered at Values and Ethics committee."

Although the questions have been asked at that committee, clear answers have not been given. For example, we still don't know why the Monitoring Officer refuses to write a "Section 5" report even though Member Complaints Process was not conducted lawfully for years. This report does not appear to be optional. From the Full Council meeting 15 September 2020 at Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council.

<https://democracy.bcpccouncil.gov.uk/documents/s19638/Report%20Under%20Section%205%20of%20the%20Local%20Government%20and%20Housing%20Act%201989.pdf>

Under Section 5(2) of the Local Government Act 1989 the Council's Monitoring Officer is under a duty to report to Council, if it at any time it appears to her that any proposal, decision or omission on behalf of the Authority has given rise to or is likely to or would give rise to a contravention of any enactment or rule of law. This provision does not give the Monitoring Officer any discretion and requires the reporting of the smallest, most inconsequential breaches of legislation, including those that cannot be remedied and for which the impact is small.

Emphasis mine.

The public deserve to have a proper report written that details exactly what unlawfulness happened with the Member Complaint Process.

My question for the Mayor is, what are members of the public meant to do, when they just cannot get a clear answer from the Officers of this Council?



QUESTION PQ 26

Subject: Barton House

Question submitted by: Dan Ackroyd

The previous Full Council meeting was heated because a lot of Barton House residents seem to be unhappy with how they are being treated.

I don't think they are wrong to feel that way.

This Council has been terrible at providing them information, and has repeatedly chosen to keep information secret rather than publish it. Bristol City Council is refusing to answer Freedom of Information requests related to Barton House, including requests for information from years ago.

Even though this administration could see how upset people are, the answers to the written questions still didn't give very much information out and skip over answering some awkward questions such as "will you publish and share with residents the full report with its findings and recommendations?".

My understanding is that there is a meeting planned between BCC and Barton House residents on the 10th of January. Will BCC publish all information held and start answering all answers cooperatively after that meeting, or will this Council continue to act as if they have something to hide?



QUESTION PQ 27

Subject: Pitches for Traders in Bristol Docks and Parks

Question submitted by: Leona Dennehy

Q1. Pitches for traders in Bristol's city docks and parks

Why isn't it on the councils website about the new higher ground rate and asking for a percentage of annual turnover? It states it's a bidding process.

Q2. Pitches for traders in Bristol's city docks and parks, Cost.

"There's no set price for each pitch. If you submit a tender bid you'll be asked to include the amount you're willing to pay per year for the use of that pitch. Your financial contribution will be looked at alongside your business offer."

Why are you trying to take a percentage of annual turnover from a small coffee van, run by 1 hardworking man that has given so much to this community always with a smile on his face?



QUESTION PQ 28

Subject: Barton House

Question submitted by: Shaban Ali

Not that long ago Barton house was covered in scaffolding for months to have its roof replaced.

Weren't there structural surveys carried out before work was undertaken?

Could the building have collapsed while that work was ongoing, basically did a tragedy not unfold by sheer blind luck?



QUESTION PQ 29

Subject: Barton House

Question submitted by: Laura Stone

How long will this new work take and what will it cost the tax payer?

Will Barton House residents be expected to live in the hotel for the duration of the work?



QUESTION PQ 30

Subject: Barton House

Question submitted by: Andy Watt

The Department for Communities and Local Government sent a letter in 2017 warning that LPS tower blocks across the country would require structural surveys and remedial works to ensure their safety. Were works or surveys carried out in response to this letter at the time, and if not, why not?

If surveys were carried out, why were the current issues with Barton House not identified at the time?



QUESTION PQ 31

Subject: Daventry Road School

Question submitted by: Cam Hayward

A new secondary school was due to open on Daventry Road in September 2023. However, this has now been delayed until at least 2025. In the meantime, its students are temporarily located at Oasis Academy John Williams.

I have heard from residents that the Daventry Road students are often unable to access facilities at the site due to priority being given to the John Williams students.

Examples I have been given include having to make sandwiches in food technology classes due to a lack of cooking facilities, and PE lessons being cancelled at the last minute.

I am concerned that students could potentially be spending half of their secondary education at a temporary site without adequate access to the facilities required for a good well rounded education.

Please can the mayor or the cabinet member for Education clarify the reasons for the delay, and outline what steps they will take to ensure the Daventry Road students get equal access to facilities at the John Williams site and receive the highest possible standard of education?



QUESTION PQ 32

Subject: Redcatch Park Tennis Courts

Question submitted by: Cam Hayward

The tennis courts at Redcatch Park are currently free to play, but are set to move to a paid subscription service under the Parks Tennis model.

I was disappointed to see this change approved after a majority opposed it at the consultation stage. I personally responded to the consultation to say that I didn't feel the change was needed yet as the courts aren't in urgent need of maintenance, and there is already a tennis club across the road for those who want to pay for a higher quality surface. However, I understand and appreciate that the Parks Tennis model helps to secure the long term future of the courts.

Please can the mayor or relevant cabinet member justify the decision to approve this change despite the outcome of the consultation, and also give details of when the change is due to take place? At the moment, the schedule is not clear other than a vague reference to some time in 2024.



QUESTION PQ 33

Subject: Barton House

Question submitted by: Nuh Sharif

Is it correct information that a fire safety certificate was denied which prompted the evacuation?

Why would fitting a communal fire alarm system make building safer than having 24/7 fire wardens which barton house has had for a little while now?



QUESTION PQ 34

Subject: Tender Submissions

Question submitted by: Jez Olpin

Mr Mayor, how can the council justify instigating an overly complex tender submission and not assist ALL traders not only those with limited computer literacy but also learning issues. The system is totally unfair and leaves users of these highly regarded facilities both bitter and questioning any true customer benefits in what appears to be nothing more than a covert attempt to make money at the expense of the independent traders who run these loved communities.



QUESTION PQ 35

Subject: Pitches for Traders in Bristol Docks and Parks

Question submitted by: Becky Watkins

The tender process outlined in this petition sounds ethically very dubious, especially given the financial pressure that most small business owners are experiencing at this time. Please can you outline a rationale that justifies asking traders like Adam to 'promise' part of their turnover in addition to a ground rent, simply to secure an area of council land on which to run their business? One that that doesn't just sound like daylight robbery and speaks to the long term impact of Bristol likely losing independent small businesses?



QUESTION PQ 36

Subject: Totterdown Bridge Tower Block

Question submitted by: TRESA CIC

Background. The towerblock development at Totterdown Bridge is currently unfinished, there is no sign of work progressing, and the 17-storey tower has only one escape route which does not comply with fire safety regulations for buildings over 18 metres. Sir Keir Starmer was taken to the development site in 2021 as part of your mayoral re-election campaign, and so we hope you have maintained interest in the construction work.

Question. Please can you provide an update on what is happening to the towerblock development at Totterdown Bridge?

