

Bristol Health and Wellbeing Board

Title of Paper:	New Bristol City Council governance arrangements
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Date of Board meeting:	23 May 2024
Purpose:	Information

1. Executive Summary

This report provides an update on the new Bristol City Council committee governance arrangements.

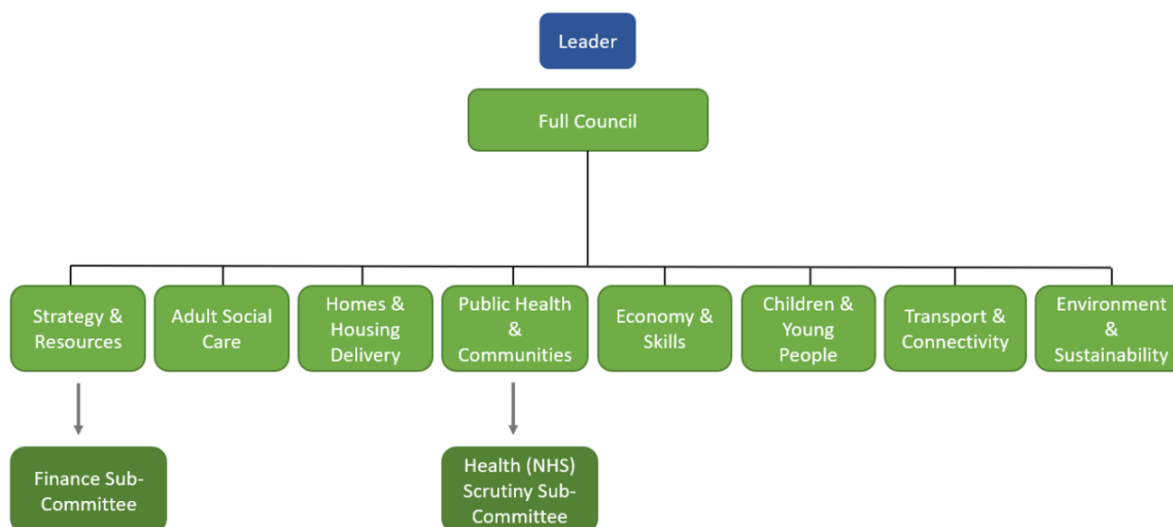
2. Purpose of the Paper

Update for the Board's information.

3. Background

Committee governance model

- Following the City Council elections held on 2 May, Bristol City Council is moving to a committee governance system, replacing the Mayoral and Cabinet governance arrangements.
- Under the new governance system, key decisions (decisions involving expenditure or savings of £500k or over, and/or decisions which are judged to have a significant impact on communities in two or more wards in the city) which were previously taken at Cabinet will now be taken by Policy Committees.
- Eight Policy Committees will be appointed as shown below, each with a specific remit which broadly aligns to one of the council's [Corporate Strategy](#) themes:



4. Each Policy Committee will meet approximately every two months. As well as taking key decisions, each Policy Committee will be responsible for:

- council functions that are set out in the Council's constitution
- providing policy steers and developing policy in their area
- agreeing plans and strategies associated with their area
- setting fees and charges for services in their area

5. Outline details of the remit/responsibilities of each Policy Committee are shown below:

Strategy and Resources	Adult Social Care	Public Health and Communities	Children and Young People
<i>With responsibility for:</i>			
Financial and legal matters	Adult Social Care	Public Health and Public Protection	Children's Social Care
Corporate Services	Safeguarding adults	Communities and Voluntary Sector	Corporate parenting, fostering and adoption
Performance monitoring	Age-Friendly City	Sport and leisure	Youth services
Council-owned companies	Better Lives programme	Community safety	Schools, partnerships, and further education
Communications	Integrated Care System	Libraries	Safeguarding children
Democratic Engagement	Adaptable homes	Parks and green spaces	SEND
		Events and carnivals	

Homes and Housing Delivery	Economy and Skills	Transport and Connectivity	Environment and Sustainability
<i>With responsibility for:</i>			
Housing delivery and innovation	Local Plan delivery	Transport policy	Climate Emergency Strategy delivery
Social housing and support services	City resilience and contingency	Transport maintenance	Waste and Recycling Strategy delivery
Landlord services	Flooding and flood strategy	Major transport projects	Clean Streets Campaign and street cleansing
Homelessness	The harbour	Major projects	Energy, heat networks and City Leap
HomeChoice	Apprenticeships, training and work experience	Local Joint Transport Plan	Carbon neutrality and Green New Deal
Private rented sector	City policy, strategic planning and comms, council plan	Capital Programme (delivery)	Air quality and Clean Air Plan
	Major development schemes		

5. The Leader (political head) of the Council will be appointed formally at the annual Full Council meeting on 21 May. Policy Committee Chairs will also be appointed formally at the annual Full Council meeting and an update on these appointments will be given at the HWB meeting on 23 May. As well as chairing the Policy Committee meetings, the Chairs will also attend regular officer briefings, provide political direction, liaise with key partners and stakeholders and act as the primary spokesperson for issues related to their Policy Committee.

6. Further detail about the committee system can be found here:

[Committee system guide \(bristol.gov.uk\)](https://www.bristol.gov.uk/committees)

Implications for Health and Wellbeing Board arising from local authority governance changes and the Health and Care Act 2022

The Health and Care Act 2022 introduced new architecture to the health and care system, specifically the establishment of integrated care boards (ICBs) and integrated care partnerships (ICPs).

In this new landscape, HWBs continue to play an important statutory role, developing the mechanisms for joint working across health and care organisations and setting strategic direction to improve the health and wellbeing of people locally.

New guidance sets out the roles and duties of HWBs and clarifies their purpose within the new system architecture. It accompanies previously published [statutory guidance](#) on joint strategic needs assessments (JSNAs) and joint local health and wellbeing strategies (JLHWSs). The Health and Care Act 2022 amends section 116A of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, renaming 'joint health and wellbeing strategies' to 'joint local health and wellbeing strategies'.

Statutory guidance on JSNAs and JLHWSs currently remains unchanged.

The role of the Health and Wellbeing Board is not impacted significantly by the new governance local authority arrangements.

The key change is in relation to membership. Whereas previously the relevant Cabinet members were appointed to serve on the Board, it is expected that the respective Chairs of the Public Health and Communities, Adult Social Care and Children and Young People Policy Committees will be appointed to serve on the Board, with one of these chairing the HWB and also representing the Bristol HWB on the Integrated Care Partnership.

Health Scrutiny

Under the new governance arrangements, scrutiny committees will cease to exist, as this role is subsumed by cross-party councillors sitting on each Policy Committee. However, the sole exception to this is the Health Scrutiny sub-committee, sitting under the Public Health and Communities Policy Committee, which will be responsible for the exercise of the statutory health scrutiny functions.

4. Recommendations

The Board is asked to note this update.

5. Appendices

None.