

Economy and Skills Policy Committee

29 July 2024



Report of: Tim O’Gara, Director: Legal & Democratic Services

Title: Economy and Skills Policy Committee: Annual Business Report 2024/2025

Officer presenting report: Amy Rodwell, Policy Committee Officer

Recommendations:

1. To note the membership of the Economy and Skills Policy Committee for 2024/2025.
2. To note the appointment of Councillor Andrew Brown as the Chair of the Economy and Skills Policy Committee for 2024/2025.
3. To note the appointment of Councillor Jenny Bartle as the Vice-Chair of the Economy and Skills Policy Committee for 2024/2025.
4. To note the terms of reference of the Economy and Skills Policy Committee.
5. To note the Economy and Skills Policy Committee’s meeting dates for 2024/2025.



1. Context/background

a. Membership of the Economy and Skills Policy Committee:

At the annual Full Council meeting held on 21 May 2024, the following members were appointed to serve on the Economy and Skills Policy Committee for 2024/2025:

Councillor Andrew Brown
Councillor Jenny Bartle
Councillor Paula O'Rourke
Councillor Toby Wells
Councillor Serena Ralston
Councillor Fabian Breckels
Councillor Kelvin Blake
Councillor Tom Renhard
Councillor Mark Weston

b. Chair of the Economy and Skills Policy Committee:

At the annual Full Council meeting held on 21 May 2024, Councillor Andrew Brown was appointed as Chair of the Economy and Skills Policy Committee for 2024/2025.

c. Vice-Chair of the Economy and Skills Policy Committee:

At the annual Full Council meeting held on 21 May 2024, Councillor Jenny Bartle was appointed as Vice-Chair of the Economy and Skills Policy Committee for 2024/2025.

d. Terms of reference of the Economy and Skills Policy Committee:

The terms of reference of the Economy and Skills Policy Committee, as set out in the Council's constitution, are as follows:

Terms of Reference of Policy Committees

All policy committees have the following terms of reference:

1. To deliver their functions in accordance with the Corporate Plan and any other plan or strategy approved by Full Council.
2. To take decisions above the financial threshold of £500,000 for decisions of Policy Committees and in accordance with the Council's approved budget and policy framework and decisions that are significant in terms of their effects on communities living or working in two or more wards in the city.
3. To consider matters that are referred to the Committee by the Chair of the Committee or which are escalated to the Committee.
4. To develop and agree strategies, policies and plans in respect of the areas of responsibility of the Committee.
5. To approve fees and charges.
6. To exercise statutory scrutiny functions through the appropriate Policy Committee, or Sub-Committee established for that purpose (health, flood risk management and crime and disorder).

7. To review risk management, financial management and performance reports from service areas within the areas of responsibility of the Committee.
8. To establish Sub-Committees and delegate functions to them.
9. To conduct task and finish activities to consider policy development matters. It is recommended that this be two per Policy Committee per municipal year.
10. To foster relationships with residents, businesses and stakeholders within the city and encourage them to participate in the Council's democratic processes.

Policy committees carrying out policy development

Where a policy committee is carrying out policy development, it will do so in accordance with the following principles:

11. Policy development will be carried out within the framework of the Council strategic priorities as set out in the Council's Corporate Plan.
12. Policy development will consider the Council Budget and Policy Framework and review of their impact on service delivery and outcomes for people in Bristol.
13. Consider 'city-wide issues' (and where appropriate sub regional, regional and national issues), in particular through collaborative work with local partner authorities, providers, stakeholders and members of the public.
14. Consider organisational performance (ICT, legal, financial and HR services) and commission performance reviews.

Specific functions of the Economy and Skills Policy Committee

The Economy and Skills Policy Committee is responsible for the following functions:

- Development of regional planning Strategy (including Spatial Development Strategy)
- Cross border responsibility for joint spatial planning
- Delivery of renewed Local Plan
- City resilience (delivery of City Resilience Strategy) and contingency
- The Harbour
- Flooding and flood strategy
- Development management
- Civil Contingency Planning - planning and control
- Apprenticeships, training and work experience
- Lifelong learning
- City Economy
- City Policy, Strategic Planning and Communications, Council Plan
- University Development and Student Accommodation
- Major development schemes
- Land and property allocated for housing development
- Departmental performance, budget and risk

e. Meeting dates

The meeting dates of the Economy and Skills Policy Committee for 2024/25 are (all at 2:00 pm):

- Monday 29th July 2024
- Monday 30th September 2024
- Monday 4th November 2024
- Monday 9th December 2024
- Monday 17th February 2025

- Monday 31st March 2025

2. Legal and Resource Implications

N/A

Appendices:

None

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers:

Full Council agenda papers and minutes, 21 May 2024 [ModernGov – bristol.gov.uk](https://www.bristol.gov.uk/moderngov)