**One City Economy Board COVID-19 response call**

**Agenda – 19th May 2020**

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| **Date/time** | | Tues 19th May  1400-1500 | **Venue** | Zoom call |
| **Co-chairs** | | Craig Cheney (Deputy Mayor of Bristol) & James Durie (Business West) | | |
| **Actions**  **Lynn to develop questionnaire for board members to share with networks**.  **When ready Sue to share Bristol Women’s Commission interviews results**  **Allan to share statement of intent and board members to review statement.** | | | | |
| **Agenda** | | | | |
| 1) | **Welcome and Introductions (Craig Cheney)**  Apologies for the tech issues on joining the call this week.  Welcome to Malindi Myers South West agent for the Bank of England and Lynn Stanley Public Health Bristol City Council | | | |
| 2) | P**ublic Health colleague update**   * Public Health Bristol (Sally Hogg)   Very successful in flattening the curve of COVID-19. The virus is going to be around for a longer period, with a new normal, 2m rule inside and outside likely until we have a vaccine.   * Mental Health in the workplace (Lynn Stanley)   Lynn is Co-chair of Mental health and wellbeing cell with Sam Bell (WECA) aim to coordinate support for the local workforce and mitigate issues arising from COVID-19 - support to most impacted particularly SME. Part of regional and national Thriving at work network. Has been developed with input from national charities and bodies like Mind and the Unions for the last two years. Hosted through West of England Growth Hub. Gathering intelligence from businesses to prioritise greatest impact - looking for short, medium and long term impacts.  **Offer:** Support, resources and toolkits for our local workforce to help mitigate mental health problems arising from COVID-19.  **Ask:** Based on knowledge from businesses what support most helpful in the short, medium and long term and what/who should we prioritise?  **Sandra**: Rolling out for other sectors?  **Sue** – Need to look more widely than SMEs - also charities & other organisations  Continue partnership with raft of business sectors not just SMEs. Want to benefit from work that is already happening and learning from other sectors.  **When ready Sue to share Bristol Women’s Commission interviews results**  **Lynn:** Mental Health and Wellbeing cell – there is a VCSE and community sector subgroup on mental health, within public health it is linked. Not separate issues and training and other offers will be applicable across all sectors.  **Lynn to develop questionnaire for board members to share with networks**.  **Nigel**: Many feel difficult to talk to managers about stresses and strains, but Unions can challenge the stresses and causes. All key workers sectors need support, shop workers under stress bus drivers facing particular stress as well.  **Stephen B:** Need is now and medium term, businesses and individuals are being affected. The key is making sure it is joined up. We need to work alongside existing initiatives – Future Bright has expanded to cover unemployed as well. | | | |
| 3) | **Business West update – James Durie**  Have settled into some sort of normal but the picture is mixed in the South West and Bristol. Some businesses are operating with similar levels of activity and some have no activity at all, some are concerned about opening up, some are wondering whether they will ever be able to open up. We are already seeing redundancies in aerospace as demand decreases. Government support has been extended in furlough till October, but it is likely there will be some tapering from July onwards with hopefully some ability to do part time working as part of that. Trying to make sure we get people back working and ensure that we do that well despite many businesses facing low revenues.  Working with Techspark etc on supporting the 500/600 businesses that pay business rates but can’t access business rate relief because they don’t have a rateable assessment. With other South West councils have had success in relaxation of rules to redeploy underspend within the council. Trying to ensure that this distribution is effective. We have done well in Bristol though and a lot of money is now in the hands of businesses that are eligible. Part of tomorrow’s City Leaders discussion will focus on moving to a different phase of lockdown tomorrow with a key issue being around confidence. There are fears around getting back to work but there is an impediment around schools for children of staff and fears about using public transport to get back to work – how do we, as a city, with the one city approach, start to do that? How do we signal that we want to encourage businesses and employers that can to start back? How can we follow the government’s five steps to ensure support and enable people to do that safely and enable them to start to trade and get back towards some sense of where we were a couple months ago. | | | |
| 4) | **Bank of England – Malindi Myers**  Malindi Myers from the Bank of England presented on the Global Economic situation, the UK context and then shared some projections about Economy going forward. Further details of her presentation can be found in the [Monetary Policy Report](https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/-/media/boe/files/monetary-policy-report/2020/may/monetary-policy-report-may-2020.pdf). | | | |
| 5) | **BCC Survey headlines (Nuala Gallagher)**  The BCC survey results and the outputs from the previous two Economy Board workshops were used to develop the statement of intent and given the time left in the meeting discussion of the Statement of Intent should take priority instead. | | | |
| 6) | **Outcomes from previous two workshops (Andrea Dell)**  The BCC survey results and the outputs from the previous two Economy Board workshops were used to develop the statement of intent and given the time left in the meeting discussion of the Statement of Intent should take priority instead. | | | |
| 7) | **One City statement of intent (Tim Borrett)**  The statement of Intent can be a few things. It can provides something for the board to agree the set of principles and align around what comes next and/or it can be a product we could design and publish to make a statement at the national and international level. It gives time and space to work on a substantive plan by sharing a public intention about the work that already occurred. Would welcome the board’s view on whether the statement of intent is appropriate for the direction of the board. It aligns to the existing One City Vision and the One City Plan and includes a green and sustainable recovery with equality and inclusion embedded within it as a key component.  If we want the document to be public facing we need to get approval from the board in the next week or two.  **Allan to share statement of intent and board members to review statement. Is this an appropriate direction for the board? Would we like this to be public facing? Is this a product?** | | | |
| 8) | Brief Sector specific COVID-19 updates  N/A | | | |
| 9) | Next steps & AOB  N/A | | | |