

One City Economy Board

Minutes – 18th May 2021

	Date/time	Tues 18 th May 2021 1400-1530	Venue	Zoom call
	Co-chairs	Craig Cheney (Deputy Mayor of Bristol) & James Durie (Business West)		
Time	Agenda			
14:00-14:05	1)	<p>Overview of One City, & reminder, top 3 priorities for 2021 update – Allan Macleod</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of our top priorities is surrounding improving provision of digital skills and the ask of the board is now they feel the Economy Board could assist with this and with the new One City Digital Board (due to be set up) which also highlights the potential of sub groups and how we can link up our work, priorities and the city wide priorities with the other thematic boards. • The city office and the boards are working on our city strategies via a one city vision and plan up till 2050, establishing a city leadership framework and to harness the collective power to benefit the city and also working on a new approach to city governance • We are also coordinating our work on our priorities towards the COP in November. 		
14:05-14:35	2)	<p>a. Welcome from Chairs – James Durie / Craig Cheney</p> <p>Apologies: -Zoe Billingham -Stephen Peacock -Sophie Chester-Glynn</p> <p>Introduction of new board members: -Marina Traversari, Gapsquare (New member, Zara Nanu replacement) -Pete Anderson, Economy of Place, Bristol City Council (Nuala Gallagher replacement) -Kathryn Davies and Keith Rundle, Destination Bristol (New member, John Hirst replacement) -Naomi Miller, Bristol Ideas (New member, Fiona Francombe replacement) -Jeremy Hayward – Lloyds Banking Group -Qazzally Ali – stepping down, awaiting confirmation of a Babbasa representative -Paul Baker - stepping down, Simon Price from BPAA replacing</p> <p>b. Updates from board members – All</p> <p>Marti Burgess – NTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive roadmap changes yesterday, however it will be a while until we see the impact of this, e.g. rent overload, end of furlough, people running at reduced capacity and skills packages for people who have been out of the industry for the last year. 		

Nigel Costley – TUC

- We are recovering from loss of union learning, network of learning reps and projects funded from government were cut in March 2021.
- Therefore, skills are a huge focus for us, we want to support skills going forward, especially with the imminent wave of redundancy post furlough.

James Durie – Business West

- Strong activity of exports in terms of documentation and in terms of businesses interested talking to us about in exporting.
- Businesses are gearing up for where they'll see growth (also post Brexit). Busy helping companies with innovation, working with innovate UK across South West.
- Focused on how to work with Bristol mayor and combined authority mayor to create a city and regional level of specifics going forward. James Durie met with Dan Norris and will seek his attendance next board.
- Longer term issue – working with the council & DEFRA re flood protection policy and clean air zone policies (we want this done in the right way for businesses).

Marina Traversi – Gapsquare

- Works in North Somerset but working closely with Bristol, the mayor's office, Bristol City Council's digital inclusion team and the director of education to work on the digi divide. Working with a charity who are able to fund devices.
<https://www.switchonthefuture.com> They focus on Africa, LATAM and the UK.

Naomi Miller - Bristol ideas

- On this board to provide a culture perspective. Excited but nervous about reopening, a lot of the sector received grants and funding but post this, the next 6-12 months will prove difficult without this support, how social distancing will look like and running at reduced capacity.
- Set up Kickstart programme and a Bristol skills exchange in cultural sector, to reskill whilst on furlough and interested in the decompression scheme.

Nina Skubala, Business West

- Economy Survey is live:
https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/NUL4ZN/?utm_source=membership&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=12388084_Net%20Zero%20Email%20to%20Bristol%20Members&dm_t=0,0,0,0

Ian McGuffog – rep from environment board

- Linking in with what environment board wants to do and link in with businesses (economy).

Sado Jirde – BSWN

- There has been a disproportional impact from covid on Black, ethnic and minority groups and businesses, women and in regards to digital skills.
- Working with BCC and WECA to put programmes in place for those businesses and taking it forward/recovery.
- Launching 2 new programmes, local access network (development BSWN social enterprises across the sector) working with Voscur (launching in July).
Programme – social enterprises with focus of out of care commissioning and contracts.

Keith Rundle – Destination Bristol

- Members working towards reopening and what it'll look like post 21st June.
- 1300 businesses paying a levy fund into business plans, directly investing in the city – e.g. Hearts in the Parks (Love Bristol).
- Footfall increasing but still down from 2019 footfall. January lockdown impacted sector massively.

Sue Cohen – BWC task group

- Covid has had a huge impact on the care sector. Our focus will be on investments into the social infrastructure and the caring economy. Need to ensure we are a collective and inclusive economy.

Jeremy hayward – Lloyds banking

- Focus is getting people back into the office post 21st June in a blended and sustainable way. This is an opportunity to promote and work with the council on the clean air initiative, with less people travelling to work.
- Need to ensure our businesses and consumers have confidence in reintegrating however they feel most comfortable as people with financial insecurity has risen.
- Our key priorities are digital inclusion, we publish an annual consumer digital index which will look regionally at how inclusion has markedly changed.
- Some organisations are offering digital training and would be good to align with others.
- Bristol has a focus on volunteering, providing career workshops, apprenticeship opportunities and giving back to the community (programmes obviously ceased over lockdown) people keen to get back to this. Working on doing this virtually to reach as many people as possible.

Diana finch – Bristol pound

- Currently on hiatus, until we know what our next steps look like.
- Currently looking at the quality of the economy and not its size. Instead of focusing on GDP, we are looking at creating a triple bottom line for Bristol, using tokens to measure things that market activity and money doesn't always measure.
- Trying to engage the wider community on a move towards a doughnut economy; meeting peoples needs without damaging the future environment.

Andy Street – City Funds and Ed Rowberry – BBRC

- Currently working on an annual report highlighting recovery from the pandemic.
- Working with homes, BSWN, City funds, Cllr Cheney and other partners on how we get the best of the city and region and how do we get the best for the economy e.g. a measurement/track and trace our progress on priorities.

Nick Lee – Bristol law society

- Launched the following Legal tech report- <https://www.whitecapconsulting.co.uk/publication/bristol-bath-legaltech-2021/>
- Legal sector and courts responded well to Covid and the sectors are now considering how best to return to work.

14.35-14.45	3)	<p>Economy board activity and performance tracking 2020-21– Craig Cheney/James Durie</p> <p>Regional Redundancy support – Stephen Bashford</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labour market stats published today, unemployment remains steady, slight decline but still high. Bristol rate close to national average. End of furlough will impact. • Regional redundancy response – working with key businesses, other LAs & , national trading providers around resilience and other workforce issues. Ensuring there is a package of support both for the employer and employee if made redundant, including a pathway into alternative training/employment. • Currently working with the growth hub to help with resilience. Have linked in with Kathryn Davies about creating particular packages for different sectors. • Talent retention framework active soon. Part of recovery fund will be going towards digital skills. If large influx of redundancy that will be rapid upskilling, immediate employment.
14.45-14:50	4)	<p>Reopening & Welcome back fund – Jason Thorne/Anesa Kritah</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bristol’s initial allocation was £415,785 by 30th June 2021 • In March the Welcome Back Fund has been extended and Bristol will receive an additional £415,785, by 31st March 2022 • Cross council working –Highways, Licencing, Public Protection, Covid Marshals, Comms, Markets & Estates, Urban Design, Culture, Community Development, Employment & Skills, Business Rates • 4 Activity strands with a further 2 being announced • Action plan and baseline set out to understand issues with social distancing, understand business responses and adherence to covid regs, identify areas for improvement, inform business and communicate to the public the plan and activity; via signs, new public info posters and bollard covers, 2m footprints, business support and communications on shops, webinars and via social media (potentially) at each stage • There will be temporary public realm changes, working with strategic transport. • Shop local, shop safely campaign launching on 24th May to promote safe high street shopping, increase public confidence and encourage shopping locally.
14.50-14:55	5)	<p>Mayoral and regional mayoral update – Stephen Bashford/Craig Cheney</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update will be given at next board
14:55-15:00	6)	<p>Work programme and forward planning – Craig Cheney/James Durie</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularity of board meetings changing to 2 monthly • Economic recovery sub-group being rearranged • Next meeting to be held just before next step in lockdown roadmap – June 21st.
15:00-15:20	8)	<p>AOB - James Durie/Craig Cheney</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marvin Rees joined at the post economy board meeting to reiterate his plea to each board that we need a collective public voice of challenge for the city. Marvin in discussions with all boards, maybe a joint letter to be circulated.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vital signs report on climate and community https://quartetcf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Vital-Signs-2021-Climate-and-communities.pdf • Next month Business West will be supporting this series of Roundtable on Climate Action with BITC. Is South West based but would be great to have representatives there from Bristol. See links: • https://www.businesswest.co.uk/events/climate-action-through-built-environment • https://www.businesswest.co.uk/events/climate-action-through-transport-and-mobility • https://www.businesswest.co.uk/events/committing-climate-positive-business-action • https://www.businesswest.co.uk/events/climate-action-communities
		<p>Actions:</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action: Marvin Rees, Dan Norris, Stephen Peacock and Antony Merritt to link up to discuss an aligned Bristol voice.* • *Action: Stephen Bashford, James Durie and Craig Cheney to align conversations. • Action: Invite Carly Heath to next board – Board chair/support officer • Action: Board to be more discussion and analysis of goal progress based, less presentation style. Allotted time on each agenda to ensure this happens. Think of ways going forward for members to provide updates; email, organisation newsletter and maybe a board whatsapp/messaging group – all/board chairs • Action: Update on Climate business survey, Allan Macleod to distribute to SDG alliance also. Briefing session to be organised so we can have a live discussion/analysis inc any interested parties and policy team • Action: Road map discussion; exit of lockdown to be discussed at June board - all • Action: Mayoral and regional mayoral update at next board – Stephen Bashford/Cllr Cheney • Action: Further update on Reopening & Welcome back fund at next board – Anesa Kritah • Action: Jeremy Hayward and Jason Thorne to link up to discuss networks who could distribute info re Reopening & Welcome back fund • Action: Board members to share info through networks - all • Action: Tackling digital exclusion – to be updated at next board - tbc • Action: Re-opening and Bristol as a safe destination; revisit at next board - tbc • Action: Keith Rundle to share the demographic footfall data, movement and spend, as this will help informed decisions being made. • Action: Board members to share Economy survey amongst their networks - all • Action: All slides shared to be circulated with minutes – Laura Gardner • Action: City Office to link in with Marina on joining the digital board (Ben Shorrock has already nominated her) • Action: Board to consider a mapping plan to highlight gaps, which businesses and sectors are affected by the skills shortage, retraining and recruitment - all