

Co-Chairs	Ann Cousins (Arup), Cllr Nicola Beech (BCC)	
Attendees (Members)	Andrew Linfoot (Jacobs), Dan Green (Wessex Water), Emma Geen (Bristol Disability Equality Forum), Gwen Frost (Bristol Waste), Iain McGuffog (Bristol Water), Ian Barrett (Avon Wildlife Trust), Jessica Ferrow (BGCP), Katherine Piper (Future Economy Network), Roy Kareem (Black & Green Ambassador Alumni), Rebecca Kirk (Environment Agency), Simon Roberts (Centre for Sustainable Energy), Trish Down (North Bristol NHS Trust), Savita Willmott (Natural History Consortium), Zoe Willcox (Bristol City Council)	
Apologies	Olivia Sweeney (Black & Green Ambassador Alumni), Phil Taylor (University of Bristol), Sara Telahoun (Anthesis)	
Secretariat	Lizzi Testani, Claire Jacob (BGCP)	
Observers	One public observer	
Invitees	Alex Minshull (BCC), Allan Macleod (City Office) [AMac], Richard Martin (BCC); Jo House (BACCC)	
ITEM	ACTIONS	
Regular items		
(1) Welcome, quorum & declaration of interests		
All members welcomed to the meeting. Meeting declared quorate and no new interests declared.		
(2) Membership recruitment update		
Following One City recruitment drive for all boards, new members joining the board introduced as Emma Geen (Bristol Disability Equality Forum), Roy Kareem (Black & Green Ambassador Alumni) – with apologies sent for this meeting - Olivia Sweeney (Black & Green Ambassador alumni) and Phil Taylor (University of Bristol). BGCP member representative: [JF] notes that she will be on maternity leave at the end of April and another representative from BGCP will be taking this place on the board. Board offered congratulations and warm wishes.		
(3) Minutes of last meeting & action register		
Minutes confirmed as accurate. Action register reviewed and updated.		
Updates & Discussion		
(4) Community Climate Action		
[LT] shared an update on the Community Climate Action project, which has been running for last 18 months. Bristol Green Capital Partnership provides central coordination – with support from core partners Centre for Sustainable Energy and Bristol City Council. 6 community partners have produced and launched Community Climate Action Plans as a direct response to the One City Climate Strategy - to engage with their community and decide how they can take part in achieving Bristol’s 2030 net zero ambitions. A bid for Phase Two of this project is now being prepared. We would like invite the board to continue to collaborate directly with communities via this project. Board members invited to 25 May breakfast to discuss opportunities to work together as part of the One City approach.		

[EG] shared how important it is for disabled people to be involved in climate action, given that they are one community likely to be most impacted by climate change and mitigation measures. Emma added that many people, if they are not already, may one day become disabled and that because our decisions now shape Bristol for the rest of our lives - it is therefore in everyone's interest to ensure that solutions are accessible for all.

(5) BACCC Annual Report

[JH] introduced BACCC's annual report on activity. Including the following highlights:

- There has been good communication with the National Committee on Climate Change to highlight the national / local policies that would support greater progress on Bristol's net zeros goals.
- BACCC wish to highlight climate risk as a priority for all, as there can be a tendency to focus on carbon emissions reductions.
- BACCC has increased its membership and register of experts to work on communications and justice issues, as a result of one member's research and report on diversity in Bristol's climate governance spaces.
- Ola in BACCC policy group has been connecting across the Council and supporting development of housing and other relevant policies.
- BACCC have named representatives for each One City board.

Also shared the following challenges:

- BACCC is a voluntary body, which limits the amount of analysis it can undertake. It welcomes proactive asks from Bristol City Council and other actors to support and advise on the development of their plans.

BACCC has noted that COP26 brought about opportunities, including a more informed public, and has caused more organisations to act on climate but would like to see more do so.

BACCC's remit is the climate emergency but [IB] and [JH] recently explored how to bring the ecological emergency into focus. [JH] has now joined a board to consider the ecological emergency.

General discussion points:

BACCC as a resource: [AC] reminds all members that the BACCC is available for their organisations to access.

Climate resilience: [DG] Whilst working on its climate plan, Wessex Water looked at [Bristol's Climate Resilience Assessment](#), and would recommend others review it.

System change: [SR] Recognises a challenge for the city in understanding how to bring about systemic, citywide change and how we shift from strategy to implementation, there isn't a model because it hasn't been done before. Recommends an open discussion and roundtable to explore potential models for change, and to review evidence of their efficacy. [IM] Bristol Water is working on system change in resource efficiency, with complex demographics. [RK] Has noted that the resistance to imagine the future is shifting. Recommends book 'Ministry for the Future' by King Stanley Robinson. [JF] Notes that facilitation will be key to bring together perspectives and generate solutions. [AC] Reiterates that BACCC is a resource for this work, as a critical friend – helping us ask the right questions. This will help provide a reality check and consider things like organisational circumstances and whether resource allocations to climate action – to understand whether there is resource behind the ambitions.

[SR] Offers to organise a roundtable to discuss system change models [JF] [RM] [RK] also interested to help shape.

(6) Leading by example

[NB] Update from Bristol City Council

- **Pesticides:** The focus of BCC’s work on Ecological Emergency Strategy has been on pesticides. It is not yet a success, as pesticides are systemically used but there is progress turning off pesticide use across teams like waste, parks and highways. We haven’t stopped using them, but we will celebrate understanding where they are used as a first step.
- **Trees:** Shared the challenge of ash dieback – wishes to bring back an ash dieback briefing to this meeting.
- Planting season for One Tree Per Child is coming to an end – 10,000s trees have been planted. Next season we’d like to ensure that planting compensates for ash dieback and also takes place in areas to improve heat resilience. If anyone from the One City Environment Board has an interest in getting involved in this project, or knows potential partners please let NB know. This is funded by strategic SIL for green infrastructure.
- **Water quality:** [NB] expressed difficulty of One City target on water pollution because Bristol council doesn’t have authority over this, it is outside of our control. We need to pull people involved in the water space together and look at this challenge.
Climate action and carbon emissions – have been doing a lot of work in the council on governance – and BCC now has a decarbonisation budget, plus identifying what it will take to reach our target for operations and estate for Scope 1 & 2 emissions. We have established three big challenges – streetlights, crematorium and fleet. The crematoriums are the single biggest emitters, and the LED-lightbulb replacement needs to be rolled out. Electrifying a fleet is a challenge because of the need to buy new vehicles using taxpayer money if the current fleet doesn’t need replacing, and there is work to do to change perception of where vehicles are business-critical.
- **Organisations:** [NB]’s ask of everyone on this board – all organisations represented – is to get to the point where they can they list the things they need to do..

Full group 3discussion:

Recent storms: [AL] Query whether recent storms has contributed to tree loss – as if we are losing more trees than being planted due to storms and disease then tree planting initiatives, such as One Tree per Child (10,000 trees planting) are being offset and we are not gaining. [IB] noted windblow as a very important ecological process, and trees falling as a result of recent storms creates spaces for nature to emerge. AWT has worked on ash dieback and has taken opportunities to introduce more tree varieties to build ecological resilience.

Electric Vehicles: [SR] noted on the fleet issue that organisations could collaborate and pool purchasing power to decarbonise fleets – including Western Power Distribution and Royal Mail. [NB] notes that BCC is collaborating, and recent insight generated from Royal Mail was that van batteries can be removed for charging, rather than having to implement new charging stations. [TD] Noted that the Integrated Care System (all local Trusts) have had to produce a Green Plan. North Bristol Trust is interested to collaborate on citywide opportunity for fleet. [NB] Also mentioned rationalising what kind of fleet we need – and reviewing the culture to shift perception and reduce vehicles. New charging infrastructure will be introduced, such

[NB] Bring Ash dieback briefing to next meeting.

as via lampposts and bollards, by 2023. [GF] Noted that there is an issue with procurement, and Bristol Waste has recently been on a waiting list for electric vehicles – a larger buying group might have more buying power than individual organisations and be prioritised. [AC] Notes University of Bristol’s electric cargo bikes are used for internal freight. [JH] would like to chat to [TD] about the Integrated Green Plan. [AM] Noted Bristol City Council Centre of Excellence is an opportunity for business to trial vans. [RK] Noted the Environment Agency is struggling to procure electric vehicles. [AM] Noted that Avon Fire and Rescue are considering an electric fire engine, there is only one German model available.

[KP] Update from Future Leap

Future Leap took on the One City goal to deliver the Sustainable Business Awards, which are now scheduled for 16 June 2022. Thank you to members of the board who have supported to develop the applications, criteria and judging panel.

[KP] asks the board to encourage organisations to apply – as the aim is for 20 applications for each category. Criteria are: organisations, don’t have to be Bristol-based, mid-April deadline for application.

The week after the Gala Dinner Sustainable Business Awards, Future Economy Network will be holding a Sustainable Business Exhibition, coinciding with Michelmore’s Sustainable conference and an M-Shed exhibition. Cites this as a potential campaign.

[SW] Update from Nature History Consortium

Provided an introduction to plans for 2022 Festival of Nature, moving back to in person. The focus will be themes of the One City Ecological Emergency strategy plus Trees, culture and nature/health.

Aims to connect with Culture Board for comms and engagement but hasn’t been successful in reaching them so far, so [RM] and [SW] met with culture organisations directly, individually, and there’s lots of interest because arts-council funding criteria is encouraging action on the climate and ecological emergency.

The Big Ideas Tent Festival running in Queens Square on 15 June and [SW] would like to work with others to ensure the ecological emergency is on the agenda for that event.

General discussion points:

All organisations [AC] Invites the board to discuss and consider how all organisations represented on the One City Environment Board can ‘lead by example’.

Offsetting [NB] Notes that all organisations will generate ‘residual carbon’ even with the best intentions and plans and would like to have a conversation about offsetting to bring transparency and credibility to this. [JH] There are not credible routes to offset locally by 2025. Offsetting/tree planting would certainly involve activity outside of Bristol’s boundaries. Environmental Farm Payments might help. [NB] Would also like to query whether there is an opportunity to look at catchment projects and also think about flood defence work upstream. [IB] Cites the Bristol Avon Catchment Market – which is now talking to landowners further upstream and creating habitats to lock up carbon and create biodiversity net gain. We have £1.7m from Defra in the Avon Catchment, which is the first of its kind in the world. Avon Wildlife Trust would welcome conversations with organisations who would like to buy carbon credits. This

[BGCP] Convene a meeting about fleet decarbonisation with potential collaborators, including One City transport board.

[JH] and [TD] to connect offline about Integrated Care System’s green plan.

[KP] to circulate information about Sustainable Business Awards to OCEB board members.

is being developed very fast but carbon benefits won't come straight away – however, all projects will be ecologically beneficial – and linked to science-based targets. [IM] Says it will work, and similar activity has reduced pesticides in the waterway. [DG] noted that this has been a complex cross-organisational project. [NB] Queried whether this is a regulated industry. [IB] Noted that whilst it isn't regulated, the Bristol Avon Catchment Market has been using the Woodland Carbon Code and discussions with government to ensure that we are not 'double' or 'triple' counting.

(7) One City Plan Goals Update

2021 Goals:

- **Goal 7: Citywide activity launched to engage citizens on pathways to achieving Bristol's 2030 climate and ecological goals, in lead up to the Conference of Parties (COP).**

[JF] recapped activity including: One City Voice campaign, the Climate Ask and Bristol City Council-commissioned Climate Heroes videos celebrating sustainable behaviours of normal Bristol citizens but noted that a lot more needs to be done. [RM] Notes that it is a challenge to engage, particularly across the One City boards. Notes the ambition for more businesses to sign Bristol's Climate Ask (currently 45 signed up) and encouraged all organisations represented on the One City Environment Board to do so. [NB] Strongly encourages all organisations to do so. [IB] AWT have employed a communications and engagement officer to help with engagement and behaviour change and aim to recruit community champions in the summer, via TNLCF funding, to do more. 87% of people in the city are concerned about nature, 53% have made space for nature.

- **Goal 8: Bristol is a Gold Sustainable Food City and 'Bristol Bites Back Better' is actively supporting sustainability and resilience across our food system and continuing work of the Food Equality Strategy.**

[ZW] Notes that Bristol has achieved Gold Sustainable Food City status. Bristol Food Network is now doing stakeholder mapping to re-establish the Bristol Food Partnership, and produce a new Bristol Food 2030 website, Bristol Waste are running a series of webinars with businesses to reduce their food waste. Feeding Bristol have produced a Bristol Sustainable Food Strategy. Bristol City Council are embedding food in policies, including the local plan. [AMac] notes recent Harvard / Bloomberg work on food as a system, which included those working on 2030 Food Strategy.

- **Goal 9: Ensure community and business-led nature-based solutions are delivering multiple benefits e.g. improving habitats and reduce flooding and pollution across the West of England.**

[IB] Cited earlier mention of Avon Catchment Market.

2022 Goals:

- **Goal 25: First City Leap Energy Partnership projects deliver low carbon and smart energy infrastructure**

[ZW] currently procuring, so can't provide much detail except that it's going to BCC cabinet in April 2022. [AM] is working with Catapult to see whether this approach can be used in other cities. [NB] would like to note that if City Leap is successful, then there will be numerous road works and disruption to public places. This provides an opportunity for public engagement.

- **Goal 26: Publish a Bristol Green Infrastructure Strategy that will help deliver the One City Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategies:**

[ZW] notes progress has been slow, with disruption due to staff changes.

- **Goal 27: Levels of fertilisers, pesticides, plastics and pharmaceuticals in Bristol’s waterways are decreasing as a result of he actions from the ecological emergency.**

[SW] Notes this goal is challenging because of where the levers are. [NB] suggests revisiting and changing this goal, as Bristol doesn’t necessarily have the ability to address it. [IB] Notes that the targets were set as moon shot targets and squeezing 3 into the plan per year has meant some large targets are upon us too quickly.

(8) One City Climate Strategy:

Update on 100 days catalyst challenge

[SR] re-capped the 100 days catalyst challenge concept – a invitation to organisations to take a lead on an issue, for 100 days only, to kick off the ‘first next steps’ on a particular challenge.

Update from challengers:

- **Simon / CSE took on domestic retrofit as a theme.** A session was held in City Hall, event themed ‘on behalf of the city’. Insights have fed into WECA-funding, co-designing. Subsequent meetings held with attendees.
- **Joy Carey Bristol Food Network took up food theme.** Work was heavily resource dependent but has become a part of future work, including the Bristol Good Food plan.
- **Claire Jacob / Bristol Green Capital Partnership took up business engagement.** Noted much of our work anyway aligned with this theme but a challenge has been doing anything outside our existing scope. We haven’t convened other organisations who have a role in delivery and noted difficulty engaging organisations in activity outside existing plans at the moment.
- **Iain McGuffog Bristol Water took up infrastructure interdependency.** [IM] noted the challenge of integrating separate plans – for example joining national planning framework with local authority activity and knowledge about what needs to happen. [RM] noted that stakeholder mapping is incredibly complex for this theme. [DG] suggested the Local Resilience Forum is a place to start. [AC] Suggests that the National Infrastructure Commission would also be a group to approach for insights.
- **Bethan Jones Resource Futures took up resource and consumption.** No update available.

General discussion points:

[SR] Noted the challenge took longer than expected and required resource from our own reserves. However, wonders how else you ask organisations to act outside ‘business as usual’ and noted that having 100 days catalyst challenge on the agenda makes us review progress on priorities as they emerge and avoids attempting to boil the ocean. Enables us to characterise the situation as it is and understand current context in which the changes need to take place.

[RM] to organise a meeting between leads of 100 days challenge leads to review the model.

(9) Ecological Emergency Strategy discussion: Our wider Footprint	
<p>[SW] Invited discussion on the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the most effective ‘first steps’ for implementing Chapter 4, ‘Wider Footprint’ of the One City Ecological Emergency Strategy? • How closely could we, or should we deliver this chapter of the OCEES strategy in tandem with the One City Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy? <p>General group points:</p> <p>Engaging businesses effectively: [JF] noted that Bristol Green Capital Partnership’s Climate Leaders group has generated insights, which have become ongoing resources for sharing more widely. Perhaps the Climate Leaders group could be expanded to look at these the ecological emergency, and noted it has already had a session on sustainable procurement. [IB] Recommends exploring and working with current channels and forms of engagement, translating OCEES into tangible steps that people can take. [AM] Suggests a table mapping existing engagement activities is made to help us understand current engagement channels for Environment Board goals and strategies.</p> <p>Each organisation contributing most effectively: [TD] would like to identify how each organisation could best contribute to the work underway which prompted a wider discussion. [NB] suggests that [AC] take this away for consideration.</p> <p>Ecological emergency should not always follow climate: [SW] Would like to challenge the idea that climate is a higher priority and nature / ecology follows. Team Wilder is a way to lead with nature in engaging people and organisations in action. [NB] Noted that the people pressure on access to nature has never been more important or relevant than now, Black & Green Ambassadors demonstrated this.</p> <p>Use culture: [JH] Noted that One City Culture Board contains people involved in TV and Film working on environmental film making.</p> <p>Nature Recovery Ranger: [TB] Noted that NHS Trust is doing Green Prescribing and has a Nature Recovery Ranger.</p>	<p>[CJ] to circulate Climate Action Programme resources to One City Board members and cover note for other organisations that members work with.</p> <p>[AM] to produce the framework of the environment activity engagement table, which will be circulated to the board for input.</p> <p>[NB] and [AC] to meet offline and consider how each organisation can contribute most effectively.</p> <p>[GF] to identify which longer term goals from next decade would need to be started now, in order for it to be achieved – and share details with [AMac]</p>
(10) AOB	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ujima Rise Breakfast Show: [RK] and [OS] now do a breakfast show on Ujima Radio – and offer this as a resource for the board to use to share information. • Msc students to solve data problems: [RK] Suggested data gaps are shared with universities Msc students as subjects for research. • Mobility equipment: [NB] suggested that Bristol Waste and NHS link up on mobility equipment and this going into the waste. 	<p>[JH] to circulate opportunities to work with Msc students and summer interns.</p> <p>[TD] to meet Bristol Waste and discuss mobility equipment recycling.</p>



One City Environment Board

Key points + actions
9 March 2022 meeting

