



Children and Young Peoples Board

Date/time	4 th October 2023 10:00 – 12:00pm
Location	Raised In Bristol Offices, 16 Orchard Street, Bristol BS1 5DX
Co-chairs	Deputy Mayor Asher Craig – Cabinet Member for Children's services, Education and Equalities Youth Mayor Mya Parker
Attendees	Emily Bailey (South Bristol Youth), Victoria Bleazard (BNSSG), Claire Corrigan (BCC), Mark Coates (Creative Youth Network), Alistair Dale (Youth Moves), Catherine Howett (City of Bristol College), Anne Malindine (Raised In Bristol), Rachel Robinson (Playful Bristol), Amy Woodrow (City of Bristol College), Courtney Young (Empire Fighting Chance), Reena Bhogal-Welsh (BCC), Fiona Tudge (BCC)
Apologies	Desmond Brown (Growing Futures UK), Amanda Coffee (UWE), Lucinda Parr (UoB), Ruth Pickersgill (Bristol Disability Equality Commission), Mya Parker (Youth Mayor), Margaret Simmons-Bird (Education Specialist), Beth Shedden (Off the Record), Melanie Vaxevanakis (The Maxi Project), Martin Bisp (Empire Fighting Chance)
Observers	
Additional Invitees	Marvin Rees (Bristol Mayor), Bonnie Dimond (BCC), Moestak Hussein (BCC), Nina Skubala (BCC), Simone Wilding (BCC)
ITEMS	
1) Welcome from host	
Anne Malindine welcomed attendees to the meeting and provided an overview of Raised in Bristol. Raised In is a social enterprise dedicated to providing first-rate nursery care whilst supporting community hubs.	

Four nurseries operate across Bristol – Easton, Felix Road, St Paul and Southmead with more planned. The nurseries operate a local, child centred approach and pay a good rate to use community buildings which enables community assets to remain open.

2) Welcome from Chair

CLlr Craig welcomed everyone back, acknowledging the last board meeting held was in November 2022.

CLlr Craig warmly welcomed new co-chair Mya Parker.

CLlr Craig introduced the new City Office team; Nina Skubala (Head of City Office), Beth Williams (Operations and Stakeholder Engagement Advisor), Karen Blong (Operations and Stakeholder Engagement Manager)

The new City Office team has made great progress since starting and all the One City thematic boards have recently met or will meet soon.

CLlr Craig highlighted the importance of focusing on the One City goals and ensuring that the board works collectively to progress priorities.

3) Introduction by Mayor Marvin Rees

The Mayor outlined the importance of the One City Approach and reminded the group of the rationale behind its creation. The following was noted:

- A month after being elected the Mayor convened a meeting at We the Curious and 70 / 75 organisations represented. The Mayors team estimated that the financial footprint was worth £6.5 billion.
- KPMG reviewed the challenge and identified a chaos of sovereignty, metrics, strategies – with over 600 strategies identified, most with short term aims.
- The City Office convened seven thematic boards to bring key partners together to address the challenges collaboratively as a collection of institutions.
- The Mayor urged the Board to consider the agenda of the city and to prioritise and promote activity that gives young people the best start in life.
- The Mayor emphasised the importance of advocating for the young people and the importance of the other significant areas in Bristol – housing, transport, health etc.
- At previous City Gatherings the Youth Mayor and the Youth Council selected Transport as a priority area. This may not necessarily be an area we would expect young people to engage with, but this outlines the impact the transport system has on our young residents.

The group were invited to ask questions and the following was noted:

- Rachel Robinson noted that Children and Young People are a key demographic in the city. 1 in 5 residents in Bristol under 16; we are a young city, and the population is growing.
- The Mayor noted that the political landscape will change after the election. Current elected members have indicated support for the City Office. The CYP board members need to consider their role and ensure that the role of the Board is prioritised.
- Mark Coates referred to the input of the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) in wider conversations, for example – the Integrated Care Partnership. Jeff Farrah has suggested that NHS funding for VCS will end soon. Funding needs to be identified as a priority to allow VCS organisations capacity to engage. The amount of funding required is relatively small.
- The Mayor referenced the Councils budgetary constraints and the challenges faced. VOSCUR is in the process of considering the financial stability of VCS organisations in Bristol. A mapping exercise is underway to review the financial risk and the outcome of this will allow partners to work together to address challenges.
- Anne Malindine noted challenges in the Early years sector. Bristol has a huge birth rate compared to other cities. Forthcoming government changes to funding is going to result in a massive demand for nursery places. Not only an economic demand but also about long term investment. Business doesn't have to be private - social enterprises should also be considered when considering solutions.

CLlr Craig thanked the Mayor for attending. The Board needs to think outside the box and work together to try and do things differently. The need will continue to increase whilst budgets continue to decrease.

4) 2023 One City Goals

The Chair noted that information will be provided on the 2023/24 goals. The board is asked to consider where to collectively focus efforts and if there is one goal which should be prioritised.

Goal 37: All children have access to healthy food at school, with school meals meeting the highest nutritional standards, considering their carbon and nature impacts and with improved access to growing food opportunities for children working with the Good Food 2030 partnership.

Bonnie Dimond presented an update to the board (appendix A).

The group were invited to ask questions and the following was noted:

Over 100 organisations have been awarded the Bristol Eating Better status, including all the Raised in Bristol nurseries. Lots of schools apply for the Healthy Schools award at the beginning of the academic year. Rachel Robinson suggested linking the initiatives to Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF). Funding has been agreed until 2025 (£1.8 million per year) and Bristol has delivered an innovative approach which includes HAF champions in

schools. HAF provision could be mapped against schools who have applied for the awards to identify the gaps. Could consider grass roots communities groups.

OFFER: Rachel to review the schools which have been awarded Bristol Eating Better status / Healthy school awards and map this against HAF provision to establish if links can be made.

Reference was made to health and inequality, considering cheap meals / takeaways near schools. Could schools buy into local providers? Could consider procurement processes.

ACTION: Nina Skubala to circulate information about a tool which can map the carbon footprint of menus.

ACTION: Bonnie Dimond to provide information on schools / Multi Academy Trusts (MATs) who are not engaging with the Healthy Food at Schools programmes. Where are the gaps?

ACTION: City Office team to work with the CYP Board Chairs to draft a letter to Multi Academy Trust (MAT) Chief Executives and Head Teachers to promote the Healthy Food at School programme.

Goal 38: By acting on what children, young people and their families/carers tell us and working with the Local Plan refresh, we have started to make a real difference to the city's communal spaces and streets so that they are more welcoming and everyone feels safer.

Moestak Hussein provided information about the built environment and noted the following:

- Work has been done to consider a Communities First model – an alliance of community leaders, entrepreneurs, parents / carers, and community leaders. Concerns around the built environment have been identified.
- Many VCS organisations are closed evenings and weekends which is an issue providing safe spaces for young people.
- From a crime prevention perspective, it is important to create safety, for example there wasn't enough adequate lighting in neighbourhood and communities and people didn't feel safe.
- Emergency services response times was another concern.
- Communities want to express their concerns in an adequate way. A Dynamic Risk Assessment model has been created which is considering a short and long term approach.
- Rachel Robinson noted the multi agency approach which brought civic leadership and statutory agencies together.
- Moestak noted the need to create opportunities for conversations – need to get key messages to communities using notice boards, information through schools but also networking to promote social cohesion.

Simone Wilding provided an overview of the key issues related to the Local Plan:

- The broad and cross cutting plan provides the key foundations for shaping the built environment I.e., housing / open space.
- The plan provides key hooks that gives us the ability to outline priorities for future planning applications.
- 31st Oct – going to Full Council to be presented before going to public consultation.
- Reference was made to a new partnership between Empire Fighting Chance and a crime analysis specialist from America. A report will be created which will outline some suggested actions, for example an Office for Violence Prevention in the City.
- Cllr Craig reminded the board of the infrastructures we already have in the City and the need to avoid duplication.

Nina Skubala noted that information on the Local Plan was being presented to various boards / groups across Bristol. It is important that the plan is adopted; having a plan is better than having no plan. Partners are being asked to support the plan and information will be circulated on how organisations can make representation to support the plan.

ACTION: City Office to circulate information on how to make representation about the Local Plan.

Goal 39: By reducing suspension, inclusion and school attendance rates are on track to be in line with the top quarter of best performing local authorities by 2028 (particularly for SEND and racially minoritised young people)

Reena Bhogal-Welsh presented information on the draft Anti Racism in Schools Strategy (appendix B). The information intends to capture the many voices in the city and work is ongoing.

The strategy aims to:

- Ensure we close attainment gaps for ethnic minority groups and disadvantaged children
- Reduce exclusions and increase attendance
- Improve representation in the teaching and leadership workforce
- Eradicate the disproportionality in SEND
- Create a bespoke professional development programme for the workforce in schools and settings.

ASK: To invite board members to be involved in a ‘Reduce Exclusions and Increase Attendance’ Task and Finish group.

ASK: Board members are asked to share their thoughts on the vision of the strategy directly with Reena Bhogal-Welsh.

ASK: Board members are asked to consider if the strands capture the voices of Children and Young People.

The Board agrees that this work is very important and progress in this area would benefit all children across the city.

5) Bristol Belonging Strategy Children and Young People Young People 20212021— 2024 2024

Fiona Tudge shared a presentation (appendix C) which outlined the key elements of the Belonging Strategy strategy.

The board will need to work alongside the Youth Council to align priorities and consider key themes.

ASK: The Board are asked to engage with the refresh of the belonging strategy.

ACTION: Cllr Craig suggested a separate meeting could be arranged to focus solely on the Belonging Strategy refresh, City Office to organise.

OFFER: Enable the large numbers of 16-19 students we deliver to, to engage in meaningful social action projects / community conversations which benefit not only the wider communities across our city but also are of significant benefit to the young people involved (Catherine Howett, City of Bristol College)

The focus of CoBC is on creating conversations and spaces whereby our learners can develop their own personal agency and enhance community cohesion and understanding.

ASK: colleagues to reach out to their networks to support CoBC in the delivery; any connections with community groups who might like to work with our Student Experience Team to develop social action projects or placements that are of benefit to all parties involved.

Examples could include 'Help The Aged' working with our students to create and take care packages to housebound folks in local communities OR A start-up youth engagement / awareness raising project who tasks our students with spreading the word across our campuses at lunchtimes

OFFER: Our space offer was around exploring how we can work with partners to open our spaces to become enhanced social assets (Catherine Howett, City of Bristol College)

ACTION: City Office to link Catherine with Welcoming Spaces team / also include Safe spaces

6) Youth Mayor update

On behalf of Youth Mayor Mya Parker, Claire Corrigan provided information about the Youth Voice Conference and Youth Elections.

Youth Voice Conference on the 26th October at City Hall from 5pm - 8pm will include market stalls from youth organisations and a chance for young people to hear about youth services, to tell us their thoughts and vote on a city wide issue.

Nominations have opened up for young people to stand in the Bristol Youth Elections. The deadline is 31st October. The voting period for the youth elections is 15th - 26th January and the election count day and announcement is on Friday 9th February.

CLlr Craig referenced the previous discussion around Safe spaces for young people and how the board can address this. Nina Skubala suggested forging links with the Community Development team and building on the Welcoming Spaces initiative. Spaces could be used as safe spaces for young people which is especially important during school holidays.

ACTION: City Office team to link Moestak to the Welcoming Spaces team.

7) Playful Bristol and the Youth Work Alliance

Rachel Robinson provided an update on the work of Playful Bristol and the Youth Work Alliance:

Bristol Play and Youth Alliance has had a strong year, focused on collaboration:

- Carried out annual audit of state of the sector, and mapping of provision across the city
- Worked with BCC to co-produce play and youth grants process
- Worked with City of Bristol College developing courses into youth work
- Starting to make stronger links with businesses and philanthropic funders
- Developed inclusion standards for play and youth work, these are currently focused on disability, developing work in other aspects of inclusion
- Supporting key city initiatives such as Family Hubs, Holiday Activity and Food fund
- Secured £500k over next 3 years from Lottery for play

8) Any Other Business

- a. Mark Coates provided information on the youth voice event on 17th October (appendix D) – an exhibition of young people’s art where young people will be telling their stories through creativity, in an event themed as an exhibition launch. RSVP here [We The 33 | The Art of \(R\)evolution | Creative Youth Network](#) or email Mark directly.

CLlr Craig noted the following:

- b. A Joint development session with Health and Wellbeing Board on November 22nd
15:00 – 17:30pm. Suggested topics:
- the first 1001 days
 - Children in Care
 - Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence.

ACTION: The City Office to send a poll to ascertain the Boards view.

- c. Board Support Officer vacancy

We are keen for the Board to have a dedicated Board Support Officer (BSO) in line with the other thematic boards and we are looking to our partners to ask if anyone would like to volunteer. The ideal candidate will have sector experience and / or an interest in working with the Childrens board. It is a great opportunity for a member of your organisation to develop collaboration skills and develop a wider network across the city. We anticipate the role to require no more than 0.5 - 1 day per week. Please contact the City Office if you would like more information or if you would like to nominate someone from your organisation.

- d. Next CYP Board meeting

A City Gathering focused mini meeting would be needed November to consider priorities.

- e. Future agenda items and topics

A future focus will be our responsibilities as corporate parents and what we can do to support foster carers in the city

The Board were encouraged to contact the City Office with any suggestions for future agenda items/ workstreams / topics.

- f. Future Venues

Board Members were asked to offer venues for future meetings.

City of Bristol College offered a space. **ACTION:** City Office to follow up.

The Chair thanked Anne and colleagues at Raised in Bristol for hosting.

