

BRISTOL ONE CITY

Economy and Skills Board

Date/time	14.12.23
Location	City Hall
Co-chairs	Victoria Matthews (Business West) Cllr Craig Cheney (Bristol City Council) (Apols)
Attendees	Anesa Kritah (Head of Economic Development, Bristol City Council) Bev Hunwicks (City of Bristol College – Deputising for Joanne Ward) Dominic Ellison (WECIL) Donna Speed (We the Curious) Kathryn Davis (Visit West) Ines Lage (Trade Union Congress) Jane Taylor (Bristol City Council)
Apologies	Adam Rainey (Lloyds Banking Group) Alex Hearn (Bristol City Council) Barra MacRuairi (UoB) Carly Heath (Bristol City Council) Derek Tanner (BSWN) Danny Cox (Hargreaves Lansdown) Joanne Ward (City of Bristol College) Joe Hensey (upReach) Nick Lee (Parragon Costs Solutions) Paul Bennett (UWE) Poku Osei (Babbasa) Sam Holliday (Federation of Small Businesses) Sue Cohen (Bristol Women’s Commission)
Presenters & Observers	Deborah Brown (Early Years, BCC), Elise Hurcombe (Culture, BCC) Jack Allan (Economic Development, BCC), Karen Blong (City Office), Naomi Lynch (Board Support), Sarah Wheale-Smith (TQ Inclusive Growth, PRD)
ITEMS	
1) Welcome & Introductions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VM welcomed the board and invited attendees to introduce themselves • Actions from the last board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The minutes from the December board have been amended to reflect that Joanne Ward (CoBC) had sent apologies in advance. ○ A final call-out for volunteers to join the Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Task & Finish Group. 	

- The [Bristol Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy 2024-27](#) has a specific focus on business engagement – **please can board members take the ask for volunteers back to their respective organisations.**
- The survey capturing views on the strategy [closes on 6th March](#), board members were encouraged to submit feedback by then.

2) Updates

- **Early Years Update: Entitlements Expansion & Wrap Around Childcare in Primary Schools & Academies** (Deborah Brown)

- The new portal for free childcare entitlement has been tested in Bristol and is due to launch mid-March.
- ESB members are **asked to**:
 - Share with employees and any families that wrap around childcare is expanding
 - Encourage Schools & Academies to engage with the project
 - Promote supportive government schemes for chargeable parts of childcare
 - Promote working in childcare as a career in our city and help us develop talents of citizens
 - Assist us to network with the One City partner organisations to promote the expansion

OFFERS:

- DB will share comms pack for employers and parents
- DB to speak to Anesa Kritah (AK) about setting up a living wage session with care providers
- DB to attend JT management team meeting to look at ways to reach parents that might not be otherwise engaged (e.g., EAL, young parents etc.)

- **Goal 58: Pay Gaps and Progression**

- NL and KB have met with a number of city partners now to understand best practice in the city and any initiatives that could be amplified through work on our priority goal
- A baseline data and evidence pack is being produced and will be shared with Board members ahead of the next meeting.
- Pay gaps will be discussed at the City Gathering and we will work to collate good practice there

- **Other City Office Updates**

- Following recent tragic events, the City Office are convening a series of meetings to bring together key partners to develop a shared understanding of the issues and resources available within the city to take a multi-agency approach.
- A roundtable will be held on 8th March, which will be an introductory meeting bringing together strategic stakeholders to develop a common understanding of the data available, the multi-agency landscape in the city (incl. pathway mapping and lived experience mapping) and explore best practice.

- The outcome of the meeting will inform next steps to be taken as a city to build on existing work/address any gaps identified.
- Following an update at City Partners meeting earlier this week, an ask was made for businesses to support by considering what skills development / employment opportunities are or could be available for young people within individual organisations.
- City Gathering – Friday 8th March
 - This years City Gathering will be held at the Bristol Beacon. Board Members are encouraged to register for a free ticket please do so by visiting our [Eventbrite page](#).

3) Temple Quarter

- Following feedback at the December Board meeting, it was agreed that an hour would be dedicated to a focussed discussion on Temple Quarter.
- AK and Jack Allan (JA) provided an overview of the Temple Quarter programme, and introduced Sarah Wheale-Smith (TQ Inclusive Growth, PRD) who presented on the current work to develop an inclusive growth strategy for TQ.
- Comments from the discussion:
 - **OFFER** - SWS to liaise with Ines Lage (TUC) about the work TUC did at Hinkley point, particularly around including the prospective workforce and local population into a build
 - Dominic Ellison (DE) raised concerns that there had not been any mention of accessibility to the site – **OFFER** - SWS to pick up a conversation with DE separately.
 - Board members shared concerns about the current ‘arrival’ and ‘welcome’ in to the city – the regeneration of TQ presents an opportunity to start thinking about an integrated approach both in terms of transport, accessibility, inclusivity and placemaking. This included the importance of ‘city dressing’ in a way that feels authentic to the character and spirit of Bristol’s communities.
 - Donna Speed (DS) raised the suggestion of ‘Having Nature on Board’ to ensure that the natural environment is always considered throughout the regeneration and development process.
 - DS also suggested that more could be done to engage local residents/families in STEM, through both formal and informal education, to support local communities to think about this as an option for them.
 - Concerns were raised about the need to plan for school places and childcare, however Board members were assured that planning for this had been considered as part of the Local Plan.
 - There was significant discussion about the importance of culture and the arts in placemaking around TQ, and around the city more generally. It was recognised that TQ needs to feel like a place that people can linger and stay, and that it is important that local people feel welcome there. Further discussion is needed around what we mean by ‘local’ and what this will mean in practice.
- **OFFER** - SWS extended an offer to Board members to have 1:1 conversations to pick up any concerns where relevant, and will ensure that Board members are invited to any future workshops or conversations to pick up next steps.

- Consultation with the public is ongoing and the Board were directed to the website - [Temple Quarter Inclusive Economic Growth | Ask Bristol Consultation and Engagement Hub](#)

4) AOB

- ***Economic Strategy – Bristol’s Future Economy***
 - AK proposed a joint workshop be held in April to look at the emerging Economic Strategy for Bristol, bringing together partners from the Economy & Skills Board, Culture Board and Health & Wellbeing Boards.
- **Global Destination Sustainability Index**
 - **ASK** - Kathryn Davis (KD) asked for support from One City Environment Board and colleagues to review this years submission once the new framework questions are released.
- **Next Meeting**
 - Our next meeting will be on May 9th, 10:00 – 12:00. We have adjusted meeting times based on feedback at the last board and an ask that we trial some meetings that start later in the day. We will review this going forward.
- **Final Thanks**
 - A warm thanks was extended by the VM and Board Members to Cllr Cheney for his support of the Board and local businesses during his tenure. It was noted that this would be Cllr Cheney’s last Economy & Skills Board meeting as co-chair.

Summary of Asks, Offer and Actions

ASKS

From	To	Overview
Health and Wellbeing Board	<u>E&S Board</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A final call-out for volunteers to join the Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Task & Finish Group. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Bristol Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy 2024-27v has a specific focus on business engagement – please can board members take the ask for volunteers back to their respective organisations. ○ The survey capturing views on the strategy closes on 6th March, please submit your feedback by then.
Early Years Team	E&S Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share with employees and any families that wrap around childcare is expanding • Encourage Schools & Academies to engage with the project • Promote supportive government schemes for chargeable parts of childcare • Promote working in childcare as a career in our city and help us develop talents of citizens • Assist us to network with the One City partner organisations to promote the expansion
Kathryn Davis – Visit West	One City Environment Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Destination Sustainability Index - KD asked for support from One City Environment Board and colleagues to review this years submission once the new framework questions are released.

OFFERS

From	To	Overview
Deborah Brown, Early Years Team	One City Board Members	DB will share communications pack for employers and parents

Deborah Brown, Early Years Team	Anesa Kritah	Co-ordinate a Living Wage session with care providers
Deborah Brown, Early Years Team	Jane Taylor, Employment Skills and Learning team	DB to attend JT management team meeting to look at ways to reach parents that might not be otherwise engaged (e.g., EAL, young parents etc.)
Innes Lage	Sarah Wheale Smith	SWS to liaise with Ines Lage (TUC) about the work TUC did at Hinckley point, particularly around including the prospective workforce and local population into a build
Sarah Wheale Smith	Dominic Ellison, WECIL	Further liaison about accessibility of the site
Sarah Wheale Smith	E&S Board	SWS extended an offer to Board members to have 1:1 conversations to pick up any concerns where relevant, and will ensure that Board members are invited to any future workshops or conversations to pick up next steps.
Anesa Kritah (AK)	E&S Board, Health and Wellbeing Board, Culture Board	AK proposed a joint workshop be held in April to look at the emerging Economic Strategy for Bristol, bringing together partners from the Economy & Skills Board, Culture Board and Health & Wellbeing Boards.

Economy & Skills Board Goals 2023/24

2023/24	2024/25
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The city is supporting Bristol's early years and childcare sector by ensuring any national government legislation changes are most effectively benefitting Bristol	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Gender, race, ethnicity and disability pay gaps are decreasing due to improved skills pathways and mentoring with routes to access senior employment opportunities (part-time and flexible)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">There is an ongoing upward trend in employment opportunities for young people, care leavers, older people and adults with learning difficulties and disabilities through local coordination and support for appropriate paid work experience and trainee / apprenticeship programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Following work in 2023, Bristol's skills provision reflects our economy's required skills (e.g. jobs which address the climate and ecological emergencies) and builds career opportunities for those traditionally underserved and/or living in our most deprived communities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">A major events and festival programme celebrating the 650th anniversary of Bristol becoming a city is part of a refreshed campaign (including the Bristol Homecoming Campaign) to increase sustainable tourism, in line with the findings from the International Year of Sustainable Tourism 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provide increased business start-up and scale-up spaces with strong digital access to grow industry clusters and broaden entrepreneurship participation, particularly among underrepresented groups and sectors impacted by the pandemic and/or Brexit e.g. the care sector and hospitality