



Bristol One City Culture Board

Date/ time	9 October 2024, 10:00 – 12:00 midday	Venue	Bristol Old Vic
Co- Chairs	Cllr Tony Dyer – Leader of Bristol City Council and Chair of Bristol City Council Strategy and Resources Committee Charlotte Geeves - Executive Director and Joint CEO of Bristol Old Vic		
Attendees	Board Members Izzy Cross (Noods Levels Radio), Euella Jackson (Rising Arts Agency), Martha King (Knowle West Media Centre), Lucie Martin-Jones (WECIL), Samir Savant (St Georges Bristol), Lynn Barlow (UWE), Professor Judith Squires (UoB), Ben Phillips (The Hippodrome (Ambassador Theatre Group)). Apologies Matthew Austin (DIY Arts Network), LaToyah McAllister-Jones (St Pauls Carnival), Lynda Rooke (Independent Actor and Equity Representative). Bristol City Council Carly Heath (Nighttime Economy Advisor), Elise Hurcombe (BCC Arts Development Manager), Councillor Ani Stafford-Townsend, Philip Walker (BCC Head of Culture) City Office Karen Blong - Operations and Stakeholder Engagement Manager Guests Sarah James – West of England Combined Authority		
Agenda			
10 – 10.05a m 5 mins	1. Welcome & Introductions, Charlotte Geeves, Co-Chair Board members were welcomed to the meeting.		
10.05 – 10.10a m	2. Actions from Culture Board – 17 04 24, Karen Blong, City Office KB confirmed that the actions from the previous meeting had been progressed:		

<p>5 mins</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay Gap and Career Progression working group - Cllr Ani Stafford-Townsend and LaToyah McAllister-Jones invited to future working group meetings. • Culture Strategy – Citizens Assembly - LaToyah McAllister-Jones to liaise with Samir Savant to discuss the mechanisms for the assembly.
<p>10.10 – 10.20 am 10 mins</p>	<p>3. City Office Updates</p> <p>KB shard the City Office updates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) New Head of City Office <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judith Langdon, Start date – 28 October 2024. Joins from The Wales Centre for Public Policy. b) Board Members Refresh <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expression of interest process for One City Children and Young People Board, Economy and Skills Board and the Culture Board were currently open. • Deadline – 11 October 2024 c) City Gathering – 8 November <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venue - Wills Memorial Building • Host - Palie Smart - Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor for Global Civic Engagement • Priority - inter-generational audience <p>Golden thread:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration (primary theme) • Community Cohesion (secondary theme) • COP 29 (secondary theme) • Youth Work Week (secondary theme). <p>Cllr Ani Stafford-Townsend would provide the Culture Board update as part of panel discussion, providing an overview of the new Culture Strategy for Bristol. The City Gathering attendees would be asked to consider how they can support the development of the strategy.</p> <p>ASK: Members of the Culture Board were asked to volunteer to facilitate the networking / discussion element of the City Gathering.</p>
<p>10.20 – 10.25a m 5 mins</p>	<p>4. Economic and Social Value impact questionnaire – update on progress</p> <p>Elise Hurcombe (EH) updated the board on progress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder feedback sessions on the final questions have been held and the team are now finalising the online version of the survey. • A paid group had been established across the sector to support this and the team are trying to push for an earlier launch date late October to align with WECA regional strategy and the need for data • In talks with WECA about taking the oversight of the analysis long term.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The questionnaire will form part of an annual scrutiny of culture which will link to budgets. An action plan will be created. <p>As part of the discussion the following was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Tony Dyer noted that the Oct budget would feed into the Local Authority spending plans. It was hoped that a three year spending agreement would provide BCC with some stability. • Izzy Cross provided information about a Noods / UWE project — it was agreed that establishing relevant links was important. • The need to support small organisations was noted. Options were being considered, e.g. bringing large and small organisations together to learn from each other. Organisations don't have to answer all the questions, but certain questions would be required to gain the economic and social outcomes. • Phillip Walker (PW) noted that completing the survey would benefit the organisation as well as providing key information to BCC. Insights were useful for telling the story about wider impact and provide evidence for funding applications. • The Board discussed previous and ongoing engagement with Lisa Nandy, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. Early interactions suggest a commitment to increase arts and culture access in schools and ensuring the sectors supports this. The Board acknowledged that many Culture and Creative sector organisations in Bristol already work with schools / educations providers. More need to be done to ensure this is captured and communicated. EH noted that the new Culture strategy will help articulate the story. • Carly Health (CH) referenced conversations with key parts about how to provide information about the nighttime economy and ensuring that business voices are heard – acknowledging the multiple different businesses that can operate from one venue. <p>EH will continue to update the board on progress.</p>
<p>10.25 – 10.35a m 10 mins</p>	<p>5. Culture Board – Theory of Change</p> <p>EH presented the draft Theory of Change overview which has been inspired by a similar version created for the One City Environment Board.</p> <p>The document provided a simple overview of the board – providing an at a glance overview which could compliment the Terms of Reference.</p> <p>Karen Blong (KB), City Office suggested the current Terms of Reference could be refreshed and the team are aiming to start this process at the same time and the One City Plan refresh in Spring 2025.</p> <p>As part of the discussion, the following was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The work ‘citizen’ could be included. • It would be helpful to outline the assumptions. For example, Everyone in the board is committed to being present. • Would it be useful to define what we mean by Culture?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It would be helpful to view the documents against the other boards and consider synergies. • Tension and challenge is essential for progress to be made. • The overview should include links to the regional influence action plans – Local Growth Plan / Regional Culture Plan. <p>ASK: Board Members were asked to volunteer to be on a working group to review and finalise the Theory of Change (EH to co-ordinate).</p> <p>ASK: All One City Boards should consider creating a Theory of Change. City Office to explore via the One City Multi Board / One City Governance Board (City Office to progress).</p>
<p>10.35 – 10.45 am 10 mins</p>	<p>6. Bristol Music Fund feasibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A feasibility study will be launched on the 6 November which would create a new funding model for music in the city. - The fund would be the first of its kind in the UK and could create a blueprint for other areas. <p>OFFER: Board Members are invited to attend the 6 November Bristol Music Fund feasibility launch on the 6 November 2024.</p>
<p>10.55 – 11.55a m 60 mins</p>	<p>7. Culture Strategy for Bristol</p> <p>Charlotte Geeves (CG) provided an overview of the recent meeting with Dave Moutrey from Manchester. DM provided a unique perspective as he has a really good understanding of Culture in Bristol both from the view of the venues and artists but also understands the views of the Local and Regional authority.</p> <p>The meeting is still available to view on the shared Onsite collaboration site.</p> <p>The following was noted as part of the discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarah James, WECA noted that the planned Citizen Assembly timescales might change due to forthcoming WECA Mayor election in May 2025. • The Campaign for the Arts report provided some interesting data – information is provided on the spending from the Government and Local Authorities – including the national average for the UK, then the area spend. The spend per head in Bristol is higher than the national average but when look at sectors – this is mainly on museums. Jack Gamble could be an interesting person to talk to. • All voices are reflected – need to ensure the strategy is not BCC / corporate. • It was noted that Manchester deliberately did not define Culture. <p>EH provided an update (see presentation) and an overview of planned engagement. EH asked the board to consider if the team are asking the right questions? What information is needed?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Where does culture take place and who is it for?

	<p>2. What do you want Bristol to feel like in 10 years time? 3. What are the 3 most important things that would help deliver that?</p> <p>The Board Members split into small groups to consider the questions and the following was noted as part of the discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The language of the questions should be aspirational – How do we create an environment where everyone can enjoy culture? • Audiences are increasingly owning their own art. We should discourage the ‘them and us’ mentality? • How do we capture the feeling? • We should consider lost culture. For examples – the loss of pubs and the impact on other social / cultural activities – darts, skittles, communities centre etc. • The questions need to consider what change do you want to see? What are the important things to you? They should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * create a space for an ideal future * Inclusive, aspiration. • The approach needs to recognise Bristol’s personality / counterculture. • Need to acknowledge and recognise that the ability to do DIY art has drastically reduced. • We need to ensure the questions link to things that we can change. • We are all cultural guardians – we need to create an opportunity for all culture to thrive. <p>EH provided an overview of the Engagement Plan and the various funding options and offers of support / resources. Funding is a challenge, and the approach can be scaled up or down to reflect the level of resources available. The following was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The information from the Citizen Assembly will be used to inform the BCC strategy. People are more likely to engage with their local activity. • Sarah James, WECA noted that the BCC strategy will link to the regional strategy. The Combine Authority is an umbrella for what happens locally and has a focus on accountability. • Inward investment should be a priority. Funding for BCC will come via WECA. We need to support to political narrative in order not to miss the opportunities. • If the approach is right and all organisations support and championed the new strategy it would be really positive. <p>OFFER – EH to co-ordinate another meeting before the Board meeting in January to consider who should be engaged and when.</p>
<p>11.55 – 12 midday</p>	<p>8. AOB</p> <p>Councillor Tony Dyer – The Strategy and Policy Committee had agreed a sub-group of Councillors who will be responsible for overseeing the development of the Culture Strategy. If Cllr Ani Stafford-Townsend is confirmed as the Chair of the sub-group</p>

	she will also become the Co-Chair of the One City Culture Board. TD re-iterated his commitment to Culture and will continue to support the work of the Culture Board.
	9. Future Meeting dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 15 January 2025• 23 April 2025.