



## Advisory Board Agenda

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January (10.30-12:00)  
Design West (Board Room) 16 Narrow Quay, Bristol BS1 4QA

### 1. Welcome and apologies:

**Attendees:** Vicky Lee, David Foley (Chair), Tom Swithinbank, Danielle Kirk, Jamie Burman, Frances Macadam, Ben Phillips, Ani Stafford-Townsend, Keith Smith, Emma Linzel, Marc Griffiths, Jeremy, Kynaston, Mehmet Kandemir, Samir Savant, Sibusio Tshabalala.

**Apologies:** Jason Thorne, Victoria Matthews, Andy Pick, Matt Birch, James Laverick, Anna Naylor.

### Actions from last meeting:

#### BID to request meeting with Cllr Ed Plowden and local businesses

- *Transport changes and proposals to Park Street have been discussed, several meetings and webinars have taken place with BCC and businesses.*
- *There has been representation from Park Street on the proposals with feedback on changes from businesses. Issues concerning traffic movement raised.*
- *Public consultation opens in March.*
- *DF felt that it was a good meeting, and that they were better proposals with small tweaks. He felt as if businesses were being listened too.*
- *Tom thanked BCC for positive engagement with both BID and local businesses.*
- *Some works will start at the end of the year (2025) and others may take till 2027.*

#### Hippodrome advertising opportunities could be shared with other cultural venues - to be discussed.

- *Ongoing*

#### VL to invite Kathryn Davis to next meeting for an update on Visit West.

- *Kathryn Davis couldn't make the board meeting; this will be pushed back for a future meeting.*

#### Central Promenade works - Lighting of the area /maintenance of artwork - general and long term.

- *Following a meeting with BCC and the Bristol Civic Society, it was confirmed that the materials being used for the flooring have a 20year life span, and additional lighting is also being added to the scheme.*

### 2. Quarter 4 Performance Report (October, November and December)

### 3. Budget and billing

Budget / collections update (10mins)

- *10% up on collections year on year*

- Challenges of access to data are ongoing,
- AB member raised issue of having received summons due to inaccurate details.

#### 4. Round table:

a. Updates from Advisory Board members (15mins)

*Highstreets UK – 14<sup>th</sup> of January, a new group have been created to discuss the many issues affecting our highstreets across the country.*

*First quarterly meeting in March is to discuss Business Rates reform. Other agreed topics include:*

- *Business rates reform.*
- *Planning*
- *Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime*
- *Removal of Tax-free shopping*

The meeting went on to discuss business rates to feed into the March meeting.

*“Limited to growth, blunt tool with relief focusing too much on turnover. “*

*“The relief helped with COVID-19 structure and it’s never taking how turnover tax improves, this should be sector dependant. “*

*“Online retail taking too much away from highstreets holding back from growth in terms to business rates.”*

*“Proactive incentives need to be in place to warrant growth. “*

*“importance of understanding the Market demand of Bristol, what are the consumers saying but how can we support the businesses to fit into the city centre?”*

*“Looking into the things we can control - Business support doesn’t match the market needs Economy and Skills, WECA and BIDs would need to work together to understand this further. “*

#### 5. Future Projects, Campaigns & Activity: (15mins)

##### **Bristol BID Consultation**

- *128 businesses met with 276 hereditaments ballot meetings.*
- *Sent the document through mailings, 1 to 1’s, property managements*
- *Survey has been conducted with a 79% average response rate*
- *Good support on the 1.9% levy option rather than 1.75.*
- *People recognise the efficiency of the merging of the BID’s.*
- *Respondents are around “not losing focus or the community and feel from the BID”*
- *Respondents feel the response time of the BID should stay the same and not to lose this.*
- *People understanding the benefits of the BID.*
- *Sign off for the 17<sup>th</sup> of March for Bristol City Council committee.*
- *Proposal being 1.9%, 30K RV threshold, 50% charity Discount and £50K cap on single hereditaments with no managed estates discount.*
- *In-person workshops have been held with positive feedback as follows:*
- *Formalising relationship with Visit West.*

- *Diversifying and categorising levy payer naming such as Social Enterprises.*
- *Advisory Board discussions on how the board will be structured for the Bristol BID.*
  - o ***Agreed that an overview would be provided at the next meeting.***

**Bristol Light Festival / Safe Space Project / City Innovation Fund / Wallace & Gromit Trail / Park Street No2 bus route / High Streets UK / Bristol Comedy Festival / RWC.**

- **Bristol Light Festival** – *Start date of 31<sup>st</sup> January. Marketing aimed at drawing light festival audience to come to the city in the daytime ahead of enjoying the festival. 40,000 guides printed, and they will be distributed through stewards with significant marketing all raised on the website. They have included feedback from the survey and continuing to grow year-on-year. 10 days with 10 artworks. Press and media on openings, and everything is going to plan.*
  - **Bristol Safe Space Project** – *Very good engagement, unfortunately the Weather hindered the first pilot. A second pilot will take place (Jan 31<sup>st</sup>) payday. The support for police and hospitals with more trials going forward as well as understanding the growth. The ability to go-mobile with volunteers made the impact. Statistics with 12 engagements on the first night, and 9 engagements on the Saturday. Discussions with and around Bath's equivalent reassured that the results were good.*
  - **City Innovation Fund** – *Grant scheme project around sponsorship for businesses in response to the changes in April.*
  - **Sculpture for Wallace & Gromit coming** – *BID have sponsored a sculpture.*
  - **Park Street No2 Bus Route** – *Document and further discussions on going.*
  - **Bristol Comedy Festival** – *New relationship with BCF. Comedy Competition with Bristol being a "comedy-bed." The first version has been received well. Attendance was good, with tickets being sold out. 5000 tickets across 120 events, adding more gigs whilst the event was going on, with a mix of free and paid events.*
  - **Bristol Women's Rugby** – *Hosted in Ashton Gate, games will start in August. Bristol's matches are in September with Fan-Zone activities being held in Millenium Square and Ampitheatre. Looking for businesses wanting to be apart of the activation, with grass-root music being discussed.*
- 6. Samir Savant** – *Bristol x International Make Music Day 21 Jun (15mins)*
- *Samir started Festival of Voice with bringing together 150 choirs Bristol.*
  - *Hosted mass singing projects – 650 singers Sing for the King & Sing for Happiness with a note from Buckingham Palace.*
  - *Looking into studies for mood and mental health with the impact of singing. Continuing Sing for Happiness for this year with the final performance.*
  - *International Make Music Day – Started in France*
  - *Free to access – No budgeting and ticketing utilising their partners.*
  - *Starts in Temple Meads, with first event happening in Redcliffe Cathedral, with Arnolfini*
  - *"Do You Hear the People Sing?" – Licensed to be played for the day.*
  - *The Humming Chorus – Bristol Light Hopper Group.*

- *Samir wants to drive the footfall for Bristol – Talking to Business West and Bristol BID, with taking over the Visit West Instagram as well with wanting other businesses to come join.*

**7. Claire Jacobs - Bristol Climate and Nature Partnership (15mins)**

**a. Update on last 12 months activity**

- *Real demand on this work, with their free events selling out and positive feedback.*
- *Tailoring what businesses may need with shared insight.*
- *Collaborating with Eunomia.*

**b. Discussion on future proposals (share proposal with board)**

- *Current collaboration is ending in April 2025.*
- *Developing a new proposal which runs April 2025 - October 2027 which focuses on continuing core activities, with one on ones with businesses.*
- *Specialising sector demand, with working with the hotel sector this year.*
- *Support broader work with sustainability with the BID's work.*
- *Getting Started Program with organisations that haven't started with climate action. 3 modules with getting new businesses for having a climate action plan.*

**8. AOB**

**9. Future meetings: Wednesday 7th May & Thursday 17th July (10.30am-12pm)**