

BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL

Notice under Regulation 4 of the Local Authorities (Conduct of Referendums) (England) Regulations 2012

This notice provides details of the proposal to hold a referendum on the governance arrangements for Bristol City Council.

1. At a meeting held on 7 December 2021, Bristol City Council resolved to hold a referendum relating to the governance arrangements for Bristol City Council.
2. Local electors will have a choice between the current Mayor and Cabinet model of governance and the Committee model of governance. The main features of the Committee model of governance (Alternative Governance Arrangements) are:
 - 2.1 Full Council will be the strategic decision-making body of Bristol City Council. Full Council is required by law to make certain decisions itself but will mainly delegate its powers to committees of councillors or to officers;
 - 2.2 The Authority would establish a number of committees with responsibility for major policy/service areas, for example, Finance and Performance, Adult Social Care, Education, Children's Services, Transport, Environment and Housing;
 - 2.3 The Authority would also establish a number of regulatory committees, with responsibility for matters such as planning, licensing, audit and human resources.
3. The Authority has published a notice under Section 9MA of the Local Government Act 2000 describing the Alternative Governance Arrangements. This document may be inspected in person at Bristol City Council's offices at City Hall, College Green, Bristol, BS1 5TR between the hours of 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday (not including bank and public holidays) or on the Authority's Website: www.bristol.gov.uk. Copies are also available free of charge from the Authority's Offices during the hours stated above.
4. The poll for the Referendum will be held on Thursday 5 May 2022 between the hours of 7.00am and 10.00pm.
5. The question to be asked at the poll for the Referendum will be:

"How would you like Bristol City Council to be run?

By a Mayor who is elected by voters. This is how the Council is run now.

Or

By one or more Committees made up of elected Councillors. This would be a change from how the Council is run now."
6. The Referendum will be conducted using the procedures similar to those for the conduct of a local council election.

7. The Referendum expenses limit for campaign organisers conducting a campaign promoting a particular outcome to the question to be asked at the Referendum is based upon 329,858 electors and will be £21,823.62.

Tim O’Gara
Director: Legal and Democratic Services
Bristol City Council
City Hall
College Green
Bristol
BS1 5TR

7 February 2022