

Company Handbook



Section 1: Introduction to council companies

Companies owned by the council

An introduction to the companies that the council owns and what they each do



Introduction

1. Since 2015, Bristol City Council (the **council**) has been the shareholder of several companies for the purpose of expanding and commercialising services and investing the profits back into the city.
2. Currently, the council directly owns Bristol Holding Limited (**Holding Company**), which in turn is the parent company of three trading companies: Bristol Waste Company Limited (**Bristol Waste**), Goram Homes Limited (**Goram**) and Bristol Heat Networks Limited (**Bristol Heat Networks**). A map illustrating the ownership structure of these entities is included in **Appendix A**.
3. By owning these companies, the council makes sure;
 - a) a high standard of services is provided to all citizens;
 - b) a commercial approach is taken which secures value for money and optimises all available resources;
 - c) there is effective governance and transparency; and
 - d) ethical standards are embedded, ensuring the well-being and protection of the work force throughout the companies.
4. The purpose of this Guidance Note is to explain the reasons for, and role of, the council-owned companies and to signpost where you can go for more information.

Bristol Holding Limited

5. The Holding Company was established to support the Shareholder in managing its interests across its companies. It ensures strategic objectives are being delivered and supervises the day-to-day activities of the council's companies. It reports to the council's Shareholder Representative on a weekly basis and to the council's support and advisory Shareholder Group on a quarterly basis.
6. [Bristol Holding's business plan for 2021/22 is available here.](#)

Bristol Waste

7. Bristol Waste is Bristol's recycling, waste collection, street cleansing and facilities management company which was established in 2015 to deliver better waste services for the people of Bristol.
8. Bristol Waste employs around 550 people who carry out over 17 million scheduled collections and collect 160,000 tonnes of waste and recycling per annum – of which, 75,000 tonnes is sent for composting or recycling. Bristol Waste cleans 800 miles of streets and footpaths and deals with 180,000 ad hoc job requests and service queries annually.
9. Bristol Waste employs a further 185 staff to fulfil its cleaning and security role internally to the council as part of its facilities management function.
10. Bristol Waste is a Teckal company meaning it is able to generate 20% of its turnover by trading beyond the public sector, so long as 80% of its activities are carried out for the council.

11. You can find out more about the ways that Bristol Waste is reducing waste and increasing recycling in the city on the [Bristol Waste website](#).
12. [Bristol Waste's business plan for 2021/22 is available here](#).

Goram

13. Goram was set up in 2018 to increase the supply of new homes built each year. They do this by partnering with housing developers to build homes on sites across the city.
14. You can find out more about Goram Homes' housing plans, partners and communities on the [Goram Homes website](#).
15. [Goram Homes' business plan for 2021/22 is available here](#).

Bristol Heat Networks

16. Established in 2020, Bristol Heat Networks allows the council to develop and expand its heat networks.
17. The heat networks will provide affordable, low-carbon heat and energy across the city and achieve the council's goal of becoming a carbon neutral city.
18. The heat networks will eventually cover central Bristol and other areas across the city, powered by low carbon energy centres.

Further information

19. The council also has minority interests in a number of other companies and owns a number of dormant companies.
20. If you would like to discuss a particular company or have a query, please contact the Shareholder Liaison Manager: Helen.Davis@bristol.gov.uk

Appendix A

Map of company ownership

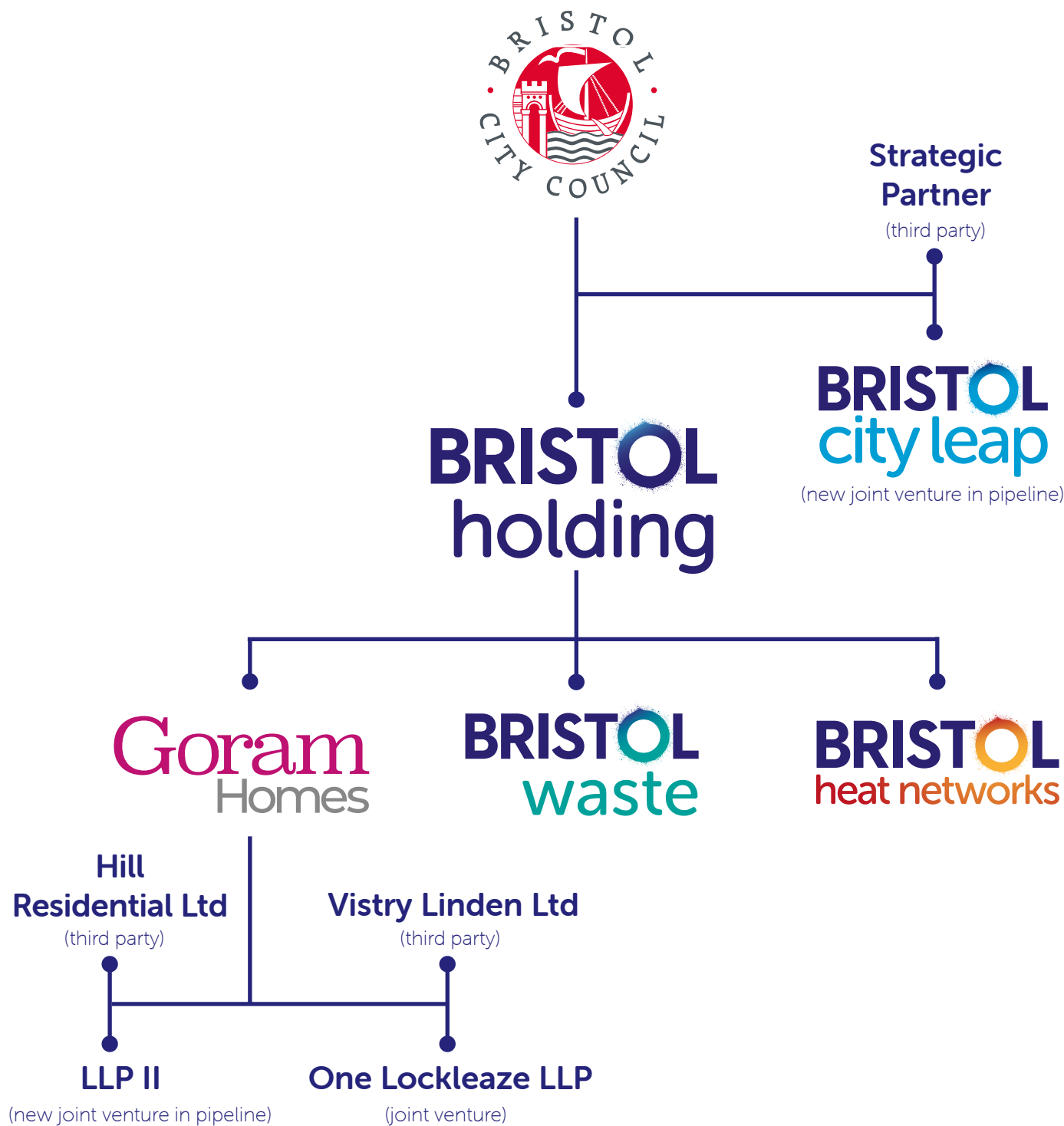


Table 1: Version Control Table

Version	Summary of Edits	Editor	Date of Version
V 1	First version for publishing	Shareholder Liaison Service	10.11.2021
V 2			
V 3			