

Bristol City Council Examination note – Duty to cooperate matters

This note has been prepared by Bristol City Council as part of the examination of the Bristol Local Plan in response to the Inspectors’ document **IN7: Action Points following hearing sessions: Weeks 1 and 2.**

This note addresses the following specific action point required by the Inspectors:

Additional evidence relating to the frequency and scope of informal officer level meetings that have taken place during the preparation of the Plan.

1. Meetings relating to maintaining effective cross-boundary cooperation

The following meetings were scheduled up to submission of the Bristol Local Plan in April 2024 and back to the halting of the Spatial Development Strategy plan in mid-2022:

Date	Meeting	Matters discussed
03/04/2024	BCC/NSC officer meeting	Cross boundary strategic matters
27/03/2024	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
08/02/2024	West of England Local Plans officer workshop	Emerging local plans collective impact; delivery of the local plans
22/01/2024	BCC/B&NES officer meeting	Bath Rd/Hicks Gate area and other matters
20/12/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
13/12/2023	Joint BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA planning and transport	Standing agenda and transport matters
06/12/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
29/11/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
22/11/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
15/11/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda

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13/11/2023	BCC/B&NES officer meeting	Bath Rd/Hicks Gate area
08/11/2023	Joint BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA planning and transport	Standing agenda and transport matters
01/11/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
25/10/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
20/10/2023	BCC/NSC officer meeting	LP progress, HRA and other issues
20/10/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
13/10/2023	Joint BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA planning and transport	Standing agenda and transport matters
28/09/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
27/09/2023	Joint PINS Advisory Meeting	See Maintaining Effective Cooperation topic paper
23/08/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
22/08/2023	BCC - Local Plan preparation and cross boundary liaison (officers and lead members)	Cross boundary strategic matters
15/08/2023	BCC/NSC officer meeting	Cross boundary strategic matters
09/08/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
02/08/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
26/07/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda

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19/07/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
13/07/2023	BCC/NSC officer meeting	Cross boundary strategic matters
05/07/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
28/06/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
26/06/2023	BCC/B&NES officer meeting	GB issues
21/06/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
07/06/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
31/05/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
24/05/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
17/05/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
03/05/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
26/04/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
19/04/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
12/04/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
05/04/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
30/03/2023	BCC/B&NES officer meeting	Hicks Gate/Brislington area P&R, strategic planning framework, transport work Whitchurch area

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29/03/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
22/03/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
08/03/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
01/03/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
22/02/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
15/02/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
08/02/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
01/02/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
25/01/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
18/01/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
11/01/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
04/01/2023	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
14/12/2022	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
07/12/2022	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
01/12/2022	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
20/10/2022	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Standing agenda
07/10/2022	BCC/B&NES officer meeting	Hicks Gate area, master planning.

12/09/2022	BCC/SGC/B&NES/MCA officer meeting	Local housing needs assessment discussion
21/07/2022	BCC/NSC officer meeting	Cross boundary strategic matters

The standing agenda for regular BCC/B&NES/SGC/MCA officer meetings includes:

- National planning policy and guidance changes
- Local updates
- Strategic evidence
- Other cross boundary matters

In addition to the above there are monthly meetings of the Heads of Planning of the four West of England authorities and this continued throughout the period covered by the table above.

For other key meetings, communications and information regarding the core steps in the process of cooperation please see the Maintaining Effective Cooperation topic paper and the two statements of common ground.

As noted in the topic paper, the process of cooperation continues into the preparation of the local plans of the neighbouring authorities. Most recently an informal meeting of West of England Cabinet member/ Committee chairs was held on 26 March 2025 in the context of the South Gloucestershire New Local Plan.