

Public Report

Birmingham City Council

Report to Cabinet Committee – Group Company Governance

14 March 2024



Subject: Company Update
Report of: Fiona Greenway, Interim Director of Finance, s151 Officer
Relevant Cabinet Member: Councillor Brigid Jones
Relevant O &S Chair(s): Councillor Akhlaq Ahmed
Report author: Alison Jarrett Director Group & Capital Finance

Are specific wards affected?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – All wards affected
If yes, name(s) of ward(s):		
Is this a key decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, add Forward Plan Reference:		
Is the decision eligible for call-in?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential : Appendix of Company updates giving personal or commercially confidential information		

1 Executive Summary

This report provides Members with an update on changes within entities that fall within the Council's group structure together with a summary report from each major company on their current performance and issues.

2 Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- 2.1 Note the information provided within the report and at private appendix 1 which contains commercially confidential details concerning group and associated companies.

3 Background

3.1 This report details Companies House reportable changes to companies that fall within the Council's group structure, reviews published accounts for audit assurance and details any material items for discussion, disclosure or recommended decision in relation to the Council's group of companies.

3.2 Company Changes

Details of changes in companies notified to Companies House since the previous Committee meeting are set out below, where a termination or appointment is made that is not a BCC member, officer or associate it is not noted.

3.2.1 RETAIL BIRMINGHAM LIMITED (06181225) - 17-Jan-24 - Termination of appointment of Mariam Khan as a director on 17 January 2024. And - - 17-Jan-24 - Appointment of Councillor Jayne Francis as a director on 17 January 2024

3.2.2 LSB LAW LIMITED (09389653) - 06-Feb-24 - Final Gazette dissolved via voluntary strike-off (first notice reported Jan '24 GCGC)

3.2.3 BIRMINGHAM WHOLESALE MARKET COMPANY LIMITED (09621110) - 01-Feb-24 - Termination of appointment of Paul John Kitson as a director on 18 January 2024

3.3 Annual accounts have been submitted for the following companies:

Company		unqualified audit (where applicable)
Companies wholly owned, ltd by shares, guarantee or financial interest		
BIRMINGHAM MUSEUMS TRADING LIMITED (04221635) - 06-Jan-24	Accounts for a small company made up to 31 March 2023	Y
BIRMINGHAM MUSEUMS TRUST (07737797) - 07-Jan-24	Group of companies' accounts made up to 31 March 2023	Y
THE GREATER BIRMINGHAM AND SOLIHULL LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP LIMITED (07635395) - 09-Jan-24	Full accounts made up to 31 March 2023	Y
ACIVICO LIMITED (07792304) - 18-Jan-24	Group of companies' accounts made up to 31 March 2023	Y
FRONTIER DEVELOPMENT HOLDINGS LIMITED (09970140) - 31-Jan-24	Total exemption full accounts made up to 31 January 2023	N/A
BIRMINGHAM ENDEAVOUR LIMITED (09995787) - 23-Feb-24	Unaudited abridged accounts made up to 28 February 2023	N/A
Interest through Board/Trust membership or contractual partnership		

BIRMINGHAM SETTLEMENT (THE) (01946604) - 08-Jan-24	Group of companies' accounts made up to 31 March 2023	Y
BIRMINGHAM VOLUNTARY SERVICE COUNCIL (00421688) - 09-Jan-24	Group of companies' accounts made up to 31 March 2023	Y
BIRMINGHAM ASIAN RESOURCE CENTRE (04351686) - 07-Feb-24	Full accounts made up to 31 March 2023	Examiners report - clean
UNIQUE VENUES BIRMINGHAM LIMITED (10661257) - 08-Feb-24	Accounts for a small company made up to 31 March 2023	Y

3.4 Company Performance

A review of the material group company interests of the council is an ongoing process to understand current impacts, including supply chain costs, inflation and recession on their business plans and performance. A snapshot of the business position is reported to each meeting of the Group Company Governance Committee in appendix 1 and in the exempt agenda where the detail is considered commercially sensitive. The content of these reports will be reviewed to ensure they meet the needs of the Committee's terms of reference. As part of these updates contain commercially sensitive information that may impact on performance were it to be made public, they will remain on the private agenda however company information is reported on Companies House website as required. Where it is indicated that there is a risk of a financial impact to the council then that will be reported within the regular revenue and capital monitoring reports to Cabinet.

4 Options considered and Recommended Proposal

4.1 This report provides information to Members on changes to organisations that fall within the Council's group structure or where members or officers hold company positions by virtue of their council position. Further reports under company specific reports will be provided to future meetings of this committee.

5 Consultation

5.1 The Chair of the Committee has been consulted in the preparation of this Report.

6 Risk Management

6.1 This report sets out information on external organisations associated with the Council.

7 Compliance Issues:

7.1 **How are the recommended decisions consistent with the City Council's priorities, plans and strategies?**

- a) The Council provides services to community through a number of different vehicles. This report provides information on entities associated with the Council through which service delivery is being provided.

7.2 Legal Implications

- a) The Council's Section 151 Officer has a duty to ensure the proper administration of the Council's financial affairs. The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, requires the Council to have effective arrangements for the management of risk.

7.3 Financial Implications

- a) The Council needs to consider whether any of the changes in the company group structure has a financial impact on or increases the financial risks to the Council.
- b) There are no direct financial implications arising from consideration of this report and the recommendations contained within it.

7.4 Procurement Implications

- a) There are no procurement implications directly arising from this report.

7.5 Human Resources Implications

- a) There are no human resources implications directly arising from this report.

7.6 Public Sector Equality Duty

- a) There are no equality duty or equality analysis issues relating to the proposals set out in this report.

8 Background Documents

CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting

9 Appendices

Appendix 1 Company Update

Exempt Appendix Company Update – commercially sensitive information