RECOVER. THRIVE.
ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN
FOR BRISTOL

SANDY FOR MAYOR
2021 MANIFESTO
2 Green Mayor’s manifesto for change

MY ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN

Making sure Bristol bounces back from the pandemic will be my immediate focus.

CHAMPION THE ECONOMY

As a CEO I know leaders need a firm grip on things when times get tough. I’ll focus on backing Bristol businesses, monitoring Brexit’s impact and will robustly present the city’s needs to the UK government. I’ll champion Bristol’s unique hospitality and creative sectors.

NOBODY LEFT BEHIND

I’ll double support for young people to find work. I will seek a Basic Income trial in Bristol to provide security for all. I’ll push and push for those struggling the most.

BEAT COVID

I’ll coordinate with all the key players to beat Covid as quickly and effectively as possible.

GET BRISTOL MOVING

We’re all sick of Bristol’s congestion. I’ll pedestrianise the Old City and halve bus fares for under-21s. I’ll work to make green and active travel the most convenient choice.

INVEST LOCALLY

I’ll direct Bristol City Council’s buying power to support local businesses. I’ll invest £10 million into high streets and create a Green Business Support Fund. I’ll create 10,000 jobs by building and insulating council homes. Once it’s safe, I’ll fund celebration events to bring communities back to life.

BEAT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

We must get our house in order. And as we lead the way, the world will come to us for solutions.
ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN

Covid-19 has wreaked havoc with our lives and our economy. And whilst our amazing and dedicated NHS staff and care workers continue to keep us safe, we must look to the future. We must rebuild our city’s economy for the benefit of all.

Lockdown and the damage to our economy means there is a real risk that unemployment will soar and business will suffer. If that happens, we all lose as people tighten their belts, businesses close and innovation stagnates. And behind the statistics lie human stories of loss of work and pay, and fear for the future and for families. The impact may be felt for a generation.

Some sectors have been hit particularly hard - the hospitality businesses that we have missed so much during lockdown are in real crisis. Our arts sector too has had to close its doors, laying off hundreds of staff because they cannot entertain us with music or theatre. And our high streets, already competing with online business, are collapsing as some of the most recognisable shops close their doors permanently.

There is a real risk that our high streets - the hearts of our communities - may be lost forever. These are the businesses that make Bristol the city we love to live in. The stories we share as friends and family are made in these places - the first kiss at the end of a night out; the inspired gig where you danced all night; the favourite dress or shirt you bought in a local Bristol shop. All of these stories have Bristol businesses at their heart. Without them, our lives would be duller.

Despite the challenges, Bristol still has a vibrant and resilient economy, with huge strength in engineering and the creative industries. Our universities put us at the cutting edge of new thinking and ideas that translate into products and services that push the economy forward.

We are leaders too in green technology and ideas, helping to solve our environmental crises and setting us on a path to a more sustainable future. Despite the challenges, most businesses are looking forward to the future.

KEY PRIORITIES

So, we must do what we can to help businesses thrive. I will:

- help our young people get into work;
- help our hospitality and creative industries get back on their feet and celebrate our city;
- create new jobs through green investment;
- improve our transport system to make business run smoothly;
- have the council buy local to create local jobs;
- ensure a real living wage for everyone.
**ACTION FOR NOW**

- Double our investment in support for young people for them to get work and qualifications. Invest £600,000 in information, advice and guidance for young people this year.
- Double our investment in supporting those who have become unemployed due to the pandemic - offering them job guidance, mentoring and training.
- Help the hospitality industry by installing temporary cycle/walking lanes to aid social distancing.
- Celebrate our local high streets with events and festivals led by our creative and arts organisations.

**ACTION FOR THE MEDIUM TERM**

- Procure council services locally, using procurement rules to give local business and charities the opportunity to provide local services. Create local jobs for local people.
- Halve the price of bus fares for under-21s, giving them better access to work and training.
- Invest £10 million in our local high streets, making them welcoming places for shoppers and a better place to do business. Fix potholes, paint facades, get street art, and pedestrianise - strengthening our high streets as the hearts of our communities and helping shops to flourish.
- Make Bristol a real Living Wage city - starting with care work.
- Invest £1 million in green business support - investing small grants in companies with real potential to make money and protect our planet.

**ACTION FOR THE LONG TERM**

- Invest in Bristol’s industrial estates - particularly in the south of the city to ensure local jobs for South Bristol citizens.
- Invest £500 million in building new council homes and insulating the existing 27,000 - creating 10,000 jobs and giving everyone a place to call home.

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Sandy Hore-Ruthven, Green candidate for mayor

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**RECOVER. THRIVE.**

Economic Recovery Plan for Bristol

Sandy for Mayor
On democracy, Green councillors:

- enabled Bristol to trial a ground-breaking approach to reboot democracy using citizens’ assemblies. The first citizens’ assembly will guide how Bristol should emerge from the coronavirus pandemic, as well as enquiring into how to heat our homes;
- passed a council motion for votes for 16-year-olds.

On Covid, Green councillors:

- worked hard to support their local communities - helping to set up mutual aid, street and Facebook support groups, helping residents receive the support they needed and supporting businesses in accessing grants;
- called for Bristol to be given the powers and resources to run test-and-trace testing locally instead of having to rely on the Government’s costly and ineffective outsourced solutions. Since the council has got more involved, test-and-trace has started to improve in Bristol;
- lobbied the council to implement street changes to provide more space for pedestrians and cyclists, to allow people to practice social distancing and exercise safely during the coronavirus outbreak;
- helped business when Green Councillor Paula O’Rourke successfully campaigned for the council to drop large fees for businesses trying to do the right thing by trading outdoors during the pandemic;
- tackled digital exclusion during lockdown, in a campaign led by Green Councillor Cleo Lake, distributing refurbished and recycled laptops to help vulnerable residents stay connected with each other and to work and study during the pandemic.
**ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND BATTLING AUSTERITY, GREEN COUNCILLORS:**

- successfully proposed and won budget amendments to expand existing council housing stock to make more rooms and homes available for families;
- secured more housing for adults with disabilities;
- brought a budget amendment to deliver more specialist housing for children in care who have complex needs;
- protected the Local Crisis Prevention Fund from austerity cuts with a budget amendment - giving vulnerable families the support they need;
- proposed increasing funding to foster carers with a budget amendment to cut the Mayor’s Office budget - voted down!
- campaigned with ACORN to press the mayor to abandon his proposal to scrap the Council Tax Reduction Scheme;
- led on the Justice for Judah campaign, supporting an innocent man tasered in the face by police when out walking his dog in Easton;
- supported the parents of disabled students, securing a reduction in their bills following large inaccurate bills from the council for home-to-school transport.

**ON THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT, GREEN COUNCILLORS:**

- blocked planning applications such as for the Avonbank standby diesel generator in St Philip’s, which would have damaged air quality;
- passed a council budget amendment to charge landlords who do not achieve energy efficiency targets and to use the funds raised to deal with fly-tipping.

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**ON CLIMATE, GREEN COUNCILLORS:**

- led the council to pass the first ever climate emergency motion in the country;
- supported a cross-party working group on implementing the Carbon Neutral by 2030 strategy, and then pressed the mayor to go further when his plan lacked urgency;
- opposed expansion of Bristol airport;
- effectively lobbied for fossil fuel divestment;
- supported the youth climate strikes;
- influenced the drafting of a new local plan, including pushing for climate policies such as energy-saving developments to be higher priority.

**ON CLEAN AIR AND CONGESTION, GREEN COUNCILLORS:**

- proposed and passed a council motion for Bristol to deliver a Clean Air Zone, and kept up the pressure on the current mayor to deliver after he took over;
- proposed a work-place parking levy to ease congestion - voted down!
- proposed a Better Buses deal that would have raised over £6 million a year to improve public transport - voted down!
There are some significant areas of new funding outlined in this bold set of proposals. Transforming our city and coming back from the pandemic will not be cheap, but these things are vital if we are to recover and thrive, tackling the twin challenges of climate change and social injustice.

The large-scale investments in buses, cycling and walking are all costed and will be paid for directly through new income schemes outlined below.

The West of England Combined Authority (WECA) holds large sums of capital funding for the region’s infrastructure, and if we are to move to a more efficient and sustainable transport system then this funding must be redirected away from road building and be used for more sustainable forms of transport. In order to invest sufficient sums into Bristol’s transport infrastructure in the way we envisage, WECA funds must be repurposed and the Bristol Green Party will campaign hard to make this happen.

Building new council houses and insulating all 27,000 existing homes can be funded through prudential borrowing on current council assets.

Investment in new energy infrastructure must be in partnership with the private sector. Whilst a Green council and mayor would push for public funds to invest in improved heating and renewable energy systems, the climate emergency dictates that speed is more essential than public ownership.

Smaller capital investments such as those identified for young people or adult social care will be funded through capital reserves or specific funds from central government.

One of the most powerful levers held by local government is through its procurement of goods and services, and its licensing and planning guidelines. Throughout this document we describe how these levers will be used to achieve the social, environmental and economic goals we have set.

We will examine the potential for community mutual investment to provide capital to finance long-term beneficial schemes such as for home insulation.
Green Councillors led the way in declaring a climate emergency and aiming for Bristol to be carbon neutral by 2030. But frustratingly little has happened in the last three years. A Green mayor and Green council will accelerate the council’s work to become carbon neutral. Most policies in this manifesto are designed to help us reach that goal and whilst it will not be possible to reach full net zero by 2030 without central government funding, a Green council will not wait.

In fact, I believe that by investing in key actions and policies, Bristol can lead the way - proving that carbon neutrality will not only act to stop climate change but will help the city to become a more equal and pleasant place. Aiming for carbon neutrality will create jobs, boost the economy and set Bristol on the way to being the first UK city to become carbon neutral.

THE PROBLEM

Climate change will have a huge impact on our city: its people, the environment and our economy. To ignore it is not an option. The climate emergency pervades every part of business and our communities. For future Bristolians, we need to act now to limit global warming, while adapting our city for the change that is to come; and it must be done in a way that is fair for all citizens.

The pace of implementation of the current Climate Emergency Action Plan is too slow and will not achieve the target of Bristol going carbon neutral by 2030.

FOR A FAIRER, GREENER CITY, VOTE GREEN
Tackling the climate emergency is everyone’s business, and the city will not become carbon neutral by 2030 without every citizen, every community and every business playing its part.

The good news is that many of the developments needed will tackle other problems that Bristol faces. We will create thousands of jobs by insulating our homes and installing renewable energy, and the poorest people will benefit most from the reductions in fuel bills. Good public transport means that jobs and education are accessible to all. Cycling and walking are good for our mental and physical health.

But the council must lead the way and we cannot wait until a ‘perfect’ plan is in place.

Tackling climate change runs as a theme throughout this manifesto and every promise that could affect the environment has been assessed for its impact on our planet. We have a future to look forward to but we must take bold action and start now before it’s too late.

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**OUR SOLUTION**

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**OUR KEY ACTIONS IN TACKLING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY WILL BE TO:**

- retrofit every one of the city’s 27,000 council homes to make them carbon neutral and reduce fuel bills;
- make bus fares half-price for under-21s;
- repurpose road building budgets to invest in safe and accessible cycling and walking routes;
- deliver renewable energy systems across Bristol through the £1 billion City Leap programme;
- ensure all new buildings and developments are carbon neutral;
- make plans to ensure our city’s wildlife in our parks and gardens can thrive in the face of climate change;
- address flooding risks.

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**Getting to carbon neutral by 2030**
THE PROBLEM

Many sectors of Bristol's economy have been hit hard by the pandemic, particularly hospitality, retail and leisure. The pandemic has also highlighted that those who do the vital jobs that keep our city going are often undervalued and underpaid. Many of these jobs are done by women and Black and minority ethnic workers.

Too many people have precarious or unsatisfactory jobs. Poor transport is an obstacle for many, blocking them from work or training.

Too many young people are NEET (Not in Education, Employment, or Training), which blights their lives and limits the progress of our economy.

To meet our carbon-neutral target, we will need to develop clean energy systems but we don’t yet have the skilled workforce to deliver those plans.

OUR SOLUTION

Bristol is a great city to do business in and we want to keep it that way!

We will free up our transport system and support people to get the jobs they need. Bristol is famous for its innovative local companies selling goods and services that can’t be found anywhere else. It leads the way in science and creativity. We will support and expect local businesses of all sizes to play their part in tackling the climate and ecological emergency.

We will work to support the caring economy where those who provide care are valued and supported, recognising the many hours of unpaid caring that supports our social infrastructure.

We will provide support to businesses hit hardest by the pandemic, to help our whole economy recover. This includes working with the West of England Combined Authority to ensure retraining opportunities are available for those whose jobs or businesses do not rebound. This includes supporting training to address skills shortages in construction and low-carbon adaptation.
Bristol must lead the way in creating new green businesses - building a new economy that benefits us all, not just those with access to capital. We will deliver a Green New Deal for Bristol that will see our economy transition towards the fair, equal, sustainable future that we need.

Areas of the city such as South Bristol must be a focus for new job-creation and local people must be given the education and skills they will need for those jobs. Purchasing goods and services locally can also create local jobs and reduce the environmental impact through reduced transport.

We recognise the vital role played by the voluntary and community sectors in supporting people into work, particularly some of the most disadvantaged in the city. These sectors are also innovators and leaders in social and environmental change and bring in new funding and ideas to Bristol. We will look to the voluntary sector as a key partner in delivering change and will invest in core funding through the Bristol Impact Fund, a community grant for life-improving projects to empower disadvantaged people.

**DELIVERING AN ECONOMIC RECOVERY FOR BRISTOL**

We will:

- work with Bristol’s universities and training-providers to encourage training programmes in green business growth and to support the generation of ideas for new start-ups;
- make sure that Bristol plays a full role in the Western Gateway, working with partner cities to bring sustainable investment and jobs into the region;
- work with industry to encourage manufacturing of green technologies in Bristol, particularly around energy infrastructure and transport solutions;
- work with major institutions in Bristol, such as hospitals, universities, the police and large employers, to use their procurement and investment to drive growth of local green businesses, as a route to community wealth-building;
- support the development of local and regional banking;
- build local ownership of the economy through support for co-operative and community-owned business growth, and make sure that community organisations/workers are involved in decision making;
- revitalise South Bristol’s industrial estates, making them more attractive to new business;
- create jobs in housing insulation through retrofitting schemes;
- support and provide resources for small traders to make their businesses more sustainable;
- advertise Bristol internationally as a green business hub and attract green businesses to relocate to the area, bringing jobs and opportunities;
- create a repair and reuse industry in the city, through providing low-cost business space to hubs for repair and reuse businesses to develop.
INCREASE PAY AND WEALTH EQUALITY

We will:
• uphold within the council the 10:1 pay principle (where the highest paid employee gets no more than ten times what the lowest paid employee gets);
• work with local businesses to report on and establish a culture of publishing gender and BAME (Black, Asian and minority ethnic) pay statistics and pay ratios for the city’s main employers, with an aim of moving towards a city where all employers support equal pay and operate a 10:1 pay ratio;
• support trade unions and workers’ rights, by providing facilities and support for their voice in the council and city;
• promote a Bristol Living Wage through all contracts commissioned by the council and run a council campaign for the Bristol Living Wage, promoting Bristol businesses who become accredited Living Wage employers.

FIGHTING AGAINST FUTURE AUSTERITY

We will fight on a national and local level against austerity measures that are damaging our city.

We will:
• work with other core cities to lead a media campaign against local government cuts, and lobby central government about funding;
• collect and use evidence of how cuts are damaging Bristol’s civic life and the wellbeing of its citizens;
• create a Needs Budget - to show the level of services that people actually need - alongside a Legal Budget and use this, nationally, to discuss city funding.

“WE WILL TACKLE THE CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY AND CREATE GREEN JOBS FOR ALL”

BACKING LOCAL JOBS, SMALL BUSINESSES AND THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR

We will:
• ensure at least 30% of all council contracts are given to local business and the voluntary sector;
• use Social Value contracts to insist on improved working conditions and local purchasing within supply chains;
• develop and implement policy to support the regeneration of our high streets, including the use of empty shops to encourage business start-ups;
• rejuvenate Bristol high streets through encouraging the development of Business Improvement Districts, where businesses pay a levy to fund projects that will benefit businesses in their local area;
• make sure that small businesses benefit from the work of the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) between the council and local businesses, and focus economic development budgets on support for small businesses and co-operatives;
• support and monitor the development of the city’s sustainable businesses.

INCREASING VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROVISION

We will:
• improve efficiency of post-16 training and apprenticeships;
• support young people into work in green industries in the city by working with existing businesses to launch a raft of vocational training opportunities for young people;
• ensure, through contracts, that apprenticeships for local people are included in all high-profile infrastructure projects that the city engages in.
THE PROBLEM

The fossil fuels that power our homes produce 1.6 million tonnes of carbon each year. The poorest people suffer most from high heating and electricity costs, and setting up Bristol Energy didn’t lessen this problem for Bristolians. In fact, it has now cost us £50 million.

Bristol can lead the way in generating renewable energy. We will focus on reducing energy demand, particularly for the poorest, encouraging the switch to renewables and supporting the business sector to trial new forms of renewable electricity generation. We will accelerate the City Leap project and increase investment beyond the £1 billion currently committed.

We will ensure that affordable supplies of low-carbon energy become available and rapidly reduce our reliance on fossil fuels. Bristol can be a leader among UK cities in tackling climate change and can create a more secure and fairer energy future for us all.

OUR SOLUTION

Generating renewable energy and saving electricity are essential to tackling climate change. We will focus on reducing energy demand, particularly for the poorest, encouraging the switch to renewables and supporting the business sector to trial new forms of renewable electricity generation. We will accelerate the City Leap project and increase investment beyond the £1 billion currently committed.

We will ensure that affordable supplies of low-carbon energy become available and rapidly reduce our reliance on fossil fuels. Bristol can be a leader among UK cities in tackling climate change and can create a more secure and fairer energy future for us all.
**TRANSFORM ENERGY SYSTEMS**

We will:
- implement city-wide retrofitting schemes for homes and businesses to reduce heating bills, working with the West of England Combined Authority;
- switch all Bristol City Council’s energy supply to renewable sources;
- fast-track the £1 billion City Leap investment in low-carbon district energy systems - efficient energy systems that deliver heat from a central source through a network of pipes to houses and businesses;
- work with national government to develop an effective energy efficiency programme for the city;
- make sure that all private landlords must achieve a Grade C energy efficiency rating (or better) for their properties;
- encourage business and domestic users to switch to renewable energy tariffs;
- deliver public awareness campaigns to inform citizens of new energy-saving efficiencies;
- monitor and publicise the city’s energy-use statistics and produce targets to drive reductions in overall energy consumption;
- support the development of large-scale battery arrays to provide peak support for the grid, and investigate infrastructure opportunities for electric cars to provide similar support when plugged in;
- ensure local community engagement in the changes needed;
- ensure that as a planning authority, we evaluate the true emissions consequences of all planning decisions;
- oppose the expansion of Bristol Airport until genuinely low-carbon aviation has been developed at scale;
- look at land use in Bristol, and where possible facilitate sustainable energy and food production closer to home, working with regional groups such as Zero West and the WECA mayor.

**SECURING NEW AFFORDABLE ENERGY SUPPLIES**

We will:
- expand and prioritise district energy systems that use renewable and waste heat sources;
- install more wind turbines in Avonmouth and/or the Severn Estuary, preferably with council or community ownership;
- lead on tidal lagoons in the Severn Estuary, working with neighbouring councils in Somerset and Gloucestershire;
- push for micro-generation of power in all new developments (for example, requiring solar panels or heat-pumps);
- identify and make available council-owned sites for new community micro-generation schemes, and urge major institutions in Bristol with land and buildings to generate energy;
- introduce stricter controls into the Local Plan to make sure that new private developments make the most of major energy opportunities and help the city to meet targets;
- maximise opportunities for generating energy from food waste.

**WORKING TO DIVEST FROM FOSSIL FUELS**

Where our money goes is one of the most important ways we can have impact. We will collaborate with others to divest the Avon Pension Fund from fossil fuels, ensure that council funds remain divested, and move investments from both sources into socially and environmentally useful projects.

“**GENERATING RENEWABLE ENERGY AND SAVING ELECTRICITY ARE ESSENTIAL TO TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE**”
Transforming Bristol’s transport

THE PROBLEM

Although traffic levels reduced considerably during lockdown, as soon as it ended, levels rebounded and pollution returned. So, whatever changes in commuting happen as a result of the pandemic, congestion in Bristol is likely to continue to be among the worst of all UK cities.

People get stuck. Businesses suffer. Our air is polluted. People cannot access education and jobs due to the poor transport networks. Walking is unpleasant. Cycle routes are patchy. Decades of inaction and lack of investment in public transport mean people have no choice but to drive their cars. As the city grows the problems will only get worse. And transport already contributes a substantial 24% of our carbon emissions but is the only sector where carbon emissions are rising.

OUR SOLUTION

During lockdown we saw how high streets can still thrive when they are pedestrianised and streets become places for people. Temporary cycle lanes encouraged us to cycle more and widened pavements let us walk side by side with friends and family, rather than squeeze in single file past parked cars. It proved that whilst we should continue to have high ambitions to have mass transit built in the future, it is important that we make changes now.

Our ambition is for Bristol to become a 15-minute city. This means that everything you need is nearby. Ensuring that essential local services, shops, schools, GP surgeries, youth centres and parks are within a 15-minute walk of every household in Bristol, we will reduce the need to travel and encourage local business and jobs. This is good for public health.

Transport is about equality - a car-based transport system excludes the poorest and most vulnerable and those most affected by pollution. Post-COVID, we will work to restore confidence in public transport.
A large-scale transport project such as a mass-transit system could have a big impact on our carbon emissions and the quality of public transport but will take 10-15 years to build. However, the climate emergency demands rapid action so we will focus on improving existing transport infrastructure.

Prioritised bus routes and reduced parking in the city centre will make just as big an impact on pollution at a far lower cost, and far more quickly. We want to make best use of the resources we already have.

We will take bold actions to incentivise people to choose sustainable travel, such as by convenient and cheap public transport, and especially travel that is physically active, such as walking and cycling. As a consequence, businesses will flourish, active travellers can enjoy their journeys and children can walk to school safely. And those needing to drive will be able to do so on less congested roads.

**WALKING AS THE NUMBER ONE TRANSPORT OPTION**

We will:
- support the pedestrianisation of the Old City;
- continue to acknowledge walking as a distinct mode of transport and will commit to fund walking projects;
- support the delivery of the Bristol Walking Strategy, creating prioritised safe and pleasant walking routes across the city with continuous footways as a priority;
- improve signage for pedestrians and make sure the pavements are well maintained, removing bins and other obstructions;
- campaign to end pavement parking;
- adjust the timing of lights at controlled crossings to minimise pedestrian delays.

**IMPROVING PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

We will:
- provide half-price bus travel for under-21-year-olds to improve access to opportunities (funded by the congestion charge when it is up and running);
- introduce seamless ticketing across the West of England region;
- make public transport the best option for travel to big events in the city, such as football matches;
- improve punctuality and reliability of buses;
- maintain bus shelters and install universal real-time information.

**DEVELOPING LOCAL RAIL LINKS**

We will work with the Government and local business on a 20-year plan to promote the further development of the local rail network and make local rail services more frequent. This will include work with North Somerset Council to deliver the Portishead Rail Link and improvements to the rail service around Ashton Gate Stadium.

We support the vision of a long-term mass transit system for Bristol.
MAKING A GENUINELY CYCLE-FRIENDLY CITY

We aim to build cycle lanes that are safe for all. We will:

• improve the quality of cycle routes through the city, with safe junctions, better lighting and separate space, particularly around schools, making sure that cycling is safe for all ages and abilities;
• produce and implement a city-wide strategic cycle network of dedicated cycle lanes;
• support cycle training schemes;
• promote the use of electric bikes (including cargo bikes), through delivering bike charging points;
• roll out more bike parking where needed, including at key transport hubs across the city, and including lockable bike hangars in residential areas;
• push for a dedicated cycle infrastructure fund through the West of England Combined Authority;
• monitor the use of electric scooters, as they are a good option for some groups who want access to flexible transport.

MAKING OUR COMMUNITIES AND STREETS SAFER

We will:

• make neighbourhoods and roads safe for children and residents through enforcement of 20mph speed limits, no-idling zones and street closures near schools;
• promote neighbourhood traffic schemes that stop rat-runs and make communities for people, not cars;
• invest each year in community-led safety and traffic reduction schemes including low-traffic neighbourhoods;
• introduce new residents’ parking schemes, where needed;
• promote resident-led street play and School Streets.

IMPROVING ROADS

We will improve highways, prioritising repairs to our existing network. We will:

• oppose plans for major road building that prioritise the car, including the South Bristol Ring Road, and instead invest the money in prioritising routes for public transport and for people on foot and bike;
• reappraise the Western Harbour development, consulting with residents and businesses first.

MAKING WECA WORK FOR BRISTOL

We will energise the West of England Combined Authority (WECA), making it work for Bristol. We will:

• push WECA to take back public control of bus routes using enhanced partnerships and franchising powers;
• argue that WECA should increase subsidies for buses;
• pressure WECA to use the capital expenditure plan for transport to support the introduction of light rail (MetroWest), cycle-route infrastructure and low-cost road improvement schemes, such as priority traffic signals that support better traffic flow and improve cycling and walking;
• develop plans for 20-year improvements to walking, cycling, buses, rail and road in the region so that we have ‘shovel-ready’ sustainable transport programmes if the funding opportunities arise.

“We’LL INVEST IN PUBLIC TRANSPORT, DEDICATED CYCLE LANES AND BETTER WALKING ROUTES”
Delivering homes for all

THE PROBLEM

The number of homeless people in Bristol has risen significantly since 2012, as has the number of them sleeping rough, and there are now 12,000 people on the council’s housing waiting list. Private sector developers consistently fail to meet targets for affordable homes and the people who struggle most are being squeezed out of their communities. Lockdown proved that we could tackle street homelessness in an emergency, but this has not proved to be a long-term solution.

Recently, more houses have been built but they are not affordable for Bristolians, and fewer homes have been built in the past five years than in the five years (2008–2012) before the Mayor of Bristol role was created. Not nearly enough social housing is being provided. Most young people cannot buy their own home and thousands of us pay a huge proportion of our wages in rent to landlords. Many home owners pay too much to heat poorly insulated properties.

OUR SOLUTION

Build new and insulate the old!

We will build council houses to reduce the intolerable waiting list, offering shelter to the most disadvantaged. When working with developers, we will refine, and then enforce, the policy on the ratio of affordable properties, allowing citizens to purchase a home. And we will insulate our city. Heating our homes generates nearly 25% of all Bristol's carbon emissions, so we will facilitate housing insulation measures wherever possible.
**BUILDING THE HOMES THAT BRISTOL NEEDS**

We will:
- build 2,000 new council homes by 2030;
- insulate every council house in Bristol by 2030, reducing carbon emissions and fuel bills by 40%;
- support the private sector to build 2,000 new homes each year through both new-build and redeveloping empty properties, and make sure that 20–40% of this is affordable;
- charge a carbon levy of £75 per tonne of emitted carbon in all new domestic and commercial developments, to generate income to offset carbon emissions from new developments;
- redefine ‘affordable’ as a home that costs no more than what a renter or buyer’s income can realistically support, and use this to guide discussions with developers over affordability in the city;
- use innovative building methods and build for changing lifestyles, accessibility, ageing communities, single-person living and so on;
- work with local communities using local development plans to devise high-quality densification plans.

**EMPOWERING LOCAL PEOPLE IN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT**

We will give local people the power over the development of their neighbourhoods and their homes. We will:
- encourage more communities to put forward Neighbourhood Development Plans to develop their areas;
- make more public land available to community-led housing projects and use compulsory purchase powers to help them assemble other sites ready for development;
- invest in new homes and community-led housing projects that are designed and controlled to meet the needs of the city.

**IMPROVING THINGS FOR TENANTS**

We will protect and enhance tenants’ rights and improve the private rental market. We will:
- continue to campaign against the Right to Buy;
- protect from eviction any council tenants in arrears due to the bedroom tax or Universal Credit;
- support the implementation of stricter licensing of private sector landlords, and strengthen enforcement, to make sure that appropriate standards of safety and comfort are maintained;
- campaign for change in the assured shorthold tenancy legislation;
- take action against landlords guilty of health and safety violations;
- campaign for affordable rent and security of tenure for private tenants;
- campaign for regulation of agents.

**REDUCING EMISSIONS FROM HOUSING**

We will reduce emissions from housing to help us meet climate targets. We will:
- upgrade existing housing stock to ensure that council-owned homes meet energy efficiency targets and are better to live in;
- make all council houses carbon neutral and meet a minimum of A-grade carbon efficiency;
- ensure all new private homes meet a minimum requirement of A-rated energy efficiency and push for carbon neutral housing as a norm;
- work with central government and the West of England Combined Authority to reintroduce the Warm Home Discount Scheme, and subsidise insulation and energy saving measures.
PROTECTING THE CITY CENTRE’S UNIQUE CHARACTER

We will work against overcrowding in the inner city and maintain Bristol’s unique character. We will:

- work to avoid overdevelopment of areas, while acknowledging the need for new housing in Bristol;
- ensure that new developments are high quality and enable healthy, strong communities, and recognise that high density does not necessarily mean high rise;
- ensure city centre planning includes a mix of homes for a variety of household types (not limited to student accommodation) to support balanced, diverse community development.

"WE’LL GIVE YOUNG PEOPLE THE BEST START IN LIFE AND EVERYONE A PLACE TO CALL HOME.”

ELIMINATING STREET HOMELESSNESS

We will:

- work with Bristol’s ‘housing first’ approach to end rough sleeping, and will create places for at least 100 former rough sleepers and people moving on from hostels;
- work to ensure ongoing continuity of support for vulnerable people as they transition between homelessness and living in a hostel or independent accommodation;
- invest in and prioritise preventative services to avoid an increase in street homelessness - this includes mental health and drug and alcohol services, and workplace and financial support;
- replace expensive, privately run, temporary and emergency accommodation with council-owned provision and deliver a programme of quick-build and modular homes to meet immediate housing needs;
- invest in support services and daytime facilities to wash and cook for people without permanent accommodation;
- implement the Bristol City Council van-dwelling strategy, offering case-by-case support for van-dwellers, ensuring communities are not negatively affected by large numbers of vans;
- increase support for asylum seekers and EU migrants at risk of destitution and homelessness.
THE PROBLEM

Bristol remains a divided city where many are prospering while others have opportunity denied to them. Racial, religious and social prejudices are on the rise again. Bristol continues to be a city of ‘villages’ that do not mix as much as they could. This reinforces stereotypes and stops the city from reaching its potential. Inequality in Bristol is above the national average, with life chances limited by which part of the city you live in.

The toppling of the Colston statue highlighted the continued inequality and the gulf between grand words and real action to change things. The plinth is still empty and we are seeing little real change in opportunities for Black and Asian communities.

OUR SOLUTION

We know that more equal societies are healthier, happier, more integrated and tolerant, and have lower levels of crime. We can make Bristol a city that benefits all, through removing barriers to opportunity and providing access to power and good jobs. Everybody, regardless of their ethnicity, sexuality, disability, faith or any other aspect of their identity should be able to flourish in Bristol.

“MORE EQUAL SOCIETIES ARE HEALTHIER AND HAPPIER, MORE INTEGRATED AND TOLERANT”
MAKING EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY KEY IN BRISTOL’S GREEN NEW DEAL

We will make equality and diversity a key indicator in developing the Green New Deal for Bristol. We will make inclusion a priority in the development of the new economy in our city and make sure that the provision of jobs benefits excluded groups and brings wealth to communities who are traditionally excluded.

AMPLIFYING THE VOICE OF WOMEN

We will:
• tackle the economic and social exclusion of women on low incomes;
• promote STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) for girls in schools;
• work with schools to ensure that education fully uses the potential of girls and that the education of young people - of all genders - builds values and behaviours that lead to a more equal society;
• make sure that women’s needs in relation to housing are understood and addressed, particularly those of women who are at risk of homelessness.

EMPOWERING A FAIRER CITY

We will:
• work with UBI Lab Bristol to create awareness of Universal Basic Income and lobby the Government with a proposal to set up a pilot in Bristol;
• set a maximum pay ratio - how much the highest-paid employee is paid compared to the lowest-paid - for the council and council-owned companies;
• work with the public, private and voluntary sectors to increase the representation of all minority groups in leadership positions;
• ensure there are micro-grants available for community-led organisations.

STANDING UP FOR LGBTIQA+ PEOPLE

We will:
• support provision of LGBTIQA+ venues, especially for younger and older generations, and particularly for those who are excluded (financially or otherwise) from commercial meeting places;
• tackle discrimination against transgender people across the city, including ensuring that council services and all organisations receiving council funds have trans-inclusive policies;
• make sure that women’s needs in relation to housing are understood and addressed, particularly those of women who are at risk of homelessness.

ENSURING A SAFER CITY

We will:
• support Bristol’s work in becoming a Zero Tolerance city and continue the work to make Bristol a city free from any form of gender-based violence, abuse, harassment or exploitation;
• prioritise the housing needs of everyone fleeing domestic violence;
• work with the police and crime commissioner to reduce hate crime and promote campaigns to highlight tolerance and the positive contribution of all minority groups in the city;
• invest in specific services for marginalised groups, such as mental health services, homelessness shelters and domestic violence refuges.

“EVERYBODY, REGARDLESS OF THEIR GENDER, RACE, AGE, ETHNICITY, SEXUALITY, DISABILITY, FAITH OR ANY OTHER ASPECT OF THEIR IDENTITY, SHOULD BE ABLE TO FLOURISH IN BRISTOL”
ADVANCING RACIAL EQUALITY

We will:
- promote a more racially diverse leadership on the council and work to make sure the city’s key organisations hear, understand and respect the needs of all races;
- promote understanding between faiths through support for the Bristol Multi-Faith Forum, and encourage further collaboration between faith groups in the city;
- continue to support the work of the Commission for Race Equality and the Stepping Up programme;
- introduce voluntary targets for Black, Asian and minority ethnic apprenticeships with local employers;
- ensure all job application processes in the council and council-owned companies are anonymised, and we will work with businesses across the city to do the same;
- decolonise the curriculum, offering differing perspectives on history from the diverse communities of Bristol.

PROVIDING FOR REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

We will:
- make sure that welcome centres and support centres are properly funded and valued;
- ensure that council information for speakers of other languages is clearly available and that services are equally delivered;
- increase housing options for refugees and work nationally to ensure that destitution and homelessness among refugees and asylum seekers are not perpetuated by the system;
- improve support for families and young people seeking asylum.

PROMOTING A CITY FOR ALL AGES

We will:
- give young people a greater say in decision-making in the city (see our linked policies in the democracy section);
- improve access to digital/online services for the elderly and ensure access for those not digitally linked;
- support Bristol in being a dementia-friendly city by training front-line staff, and promoting dementia-friendly urban planning policies.

ENABLING ALL OUR CITIZENS

We will:
- improve support for residents with disabilities;
- commit to the principle of ‘nothing about us without us’ and involve disabled people in decision-making across the council by boosting the say of the Disability Equality Forum;
- make public transport more accessible;
- aim to create a truly inclusive city.
THE PROBLEM

Climate change is not the only challenge facing our environment. In Bristol, air pollution is over the legal limit in many areas of the city and causes almost 300 people to die prematurely each year. The poorest families living in pollution hotspots are hit hardest, and children and the elderly are most vulnerable to its effects.

All over the UK, polluted air affects our health; plastic and waste that we discard end up polluting our seas and rivers. Single-use plastics are a huge problem, and in Bristol, we don’t have the facilities to collect, let alone recycle, soft plastics such as food wrappers.

The whole of nature is under threat from excessive growth. Since 1970, wild vertebrates have declined by 60%, freshwater wildlife by 83% and marine populations by 50%. In Bristol alone, starling populations have dropped by 96%. Pollution and destruction of habitats and other ecological threats mean that a million species now face extinction. We are facing an ecological disaster.

OUR SOLUTION

We will treat our polluted air and the ecological crisis with the seriousness and urgency that they deserve and take anti-pollution actions, making sure that none hit the worst-off unfairly. We will protect and expand our city’s green spaces, making Bristol a national example of green living, and will actively encourage rewilding.

We will aim for Bristol to become a Zero Waste city, with a focus on waste prevention and reuse. Excessive consumption needs to be reduced, and we will act to limit the intrusive advertising that promotes it.

“LET’S MAKE BRISTOL A ZERO WASTE CITY BY 2030”
CLEANING UP THE AIR

For clean air, we will bring Bristol to within national air pollution legal limits by 2025. We will:

- introduce a Clean Air Zone for the centre of Bristol that will apply to all private and commercial vehicles, implemented in a fair way with exemptions or discount schemes to make sure that the poorest residents are not unfairly affected;
- ensure that no planning application, if approved, would make air quality worse;
- make sure that air pollution is monitored and the data is properly publicised. We will provide funds to communities so they can monitor the air and identify pollution black spots, working with the council's air quality management unit;
- oppose all airport expansions and major new road building schemes, investing the money instead in public transport.

REDUCING WASTE, INCREASING RECYCLING

Bristol has one of the highest recycling rates in the UK because of Bristol Friends of the Earth’s pressure in the 1990s to invest in recycling facilities. We want to encourage waste reduction and reuse, and will push to increase recycling rates.

Making Bristol a Zero Waste city

We will commit to Bristol becoming a Zero Waste city, by producing a waste prevention strategy with numerical targets for all waste. We will produce less waste, recycling more and consuming less. We will:

- ensure the proposed new integrated recycling repair and re-use centre on the proposed Hartcliffe Way site in South Bristol is built;
- refurbish the recycling centre sites at Avonmouth and St Philip’s, to include resource recovery facilities;
- introduce a city-wide Library of Things to support borrowing and limit buying;
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PROTECTING AND INCREASING GREEN SPACES

For parks and nature, we will protect green spaces and encourage planting across the city, as a way to capture carbon at the same time as improving wellbeing. We will:

- double Bristol’s tree cover by 2040;
- protect and fund Bristol’s parks and green spaces;
- encourage natural habitats within our parks, verges and green spaces;
- promoterewilding in the city to support wildlife, including insects - especially pollinators;
- protect and ring-fence current maintenance budgets for green spaces in the city, and resist proposals to bring major commercial sponsorship into parks, such as billboards or digital advertising;
- promote the use of parks by supporting community events in these valuable public spaces, and encouraging sport and other recreational use, such as parkruns;
- protect and provide more allotments and community food growing spaces in the city;
- increase green space and vegetation in public places in Bristol through living roofs and vertical planting;
- create a nature recovery network of wildlife havens and corridors - using parks, streets and gardens - to help our wildlife thrive and adapt;
- develop planning guidance to ensure that new developments provide a net gain for wildlife;
- protect key soil resources and prime agricultural land for growing food in the city, such as the Blue Finger (an area of high-quality soil partly inside Bristol);
- support the Bristol Parks Strategy.

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Reducing single-use plastics

We will reduce the availability of single-use plastics in Bristol. We will:

- use procurement and licensing regulations to make major events in Bristol, including all festivals and conferences, free of single-use plastic;
- use the mayor’s influence to lobby the Government to tighten up packaging regulations to remove from our shelves single-use plastic materials that can’t be recycled;
- improve water-fountain provision in the city to reduce the need for plastic bottles;
- work with local businesses and the Bristol Waste Company to find procurement and processing solutions for biodegradable packaging, much of which is not currently recycled, and promote the use of reusable alternatives.

Reducing social pressure to consume

We will reduce the social pressure for excessive consumption by reducing and removing street advertising where possible. We will:

- host trials of areas in the city with zero street advertising and monitor improvement in wellbeing and the impact on business, with a view to developing a city-wide policy for reduced advertising;
- oppose new digital advertising, and new billboards, in all areas.

Taking action for cleaner streets

We will:

- increase the number of enforcement officers with powers to fine people for dumping or flytipping;
- stop commercial organisations using residential communal bins, through promoting good practice and enforcing fines where possible;
- introduce free bulky-waste collection on doorsteps, in order to reduce fly-tipping;
- extend waste collection to include bric-a-brac;
- improve access to recycling centres by letting residents drop off goods on foot or bicycle, not just by car;
- research, develop and provide more tailored waste solutions for housing areas or blocks of flats where wheelie bins and recycling boxes are not appropriate, do not fit, or where the current set-up isn’t working.

For linked policies on transport, energy use and housing sustainability, see those sections.
Rebooting democracy

For a fairer democracy a Green mayor would have a cross-party cabinet made up of all the main parties represented on the council.

THE PROBLEM

There is too much power in the hands of the mayor, and our councillors are limited to scrutinising policies without much opportunity for action. Community engagement sometimes fails, leading to confusion and scepticism. Citizens have little control or ownership of important decisions about the future of the city. The Neighbourhood Partnerships were broken and people feel frustrated and left without a voice. Bristol’s City Hall is remote from the people and that needs to change.

OUR SOLUTION

A Green mayor and council would redistribute power to give people more say, change the rules of our decision making, and help citizens across Bristol feel that their voices could be heard. By bringing the collective energy and ideas of Bristol’s citizens equally and fairly into decisions, we can build a better city.
ENSURING CITIZENS’ VOICES ARE HEARD
We will ensure that more citizens’ voices are heard and represented in the council’s decision-making. We will:

- change the rules so that petitions that get 3,500 signatures get voted on by councillors;
- create a cabinet position for Citizen Voice, Representation and Democracy;
- continue to facilitate citizens’ assemblies on large or contentious projects, including how to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030;
- commit to respect the principle that where a citizens’ assembly votes more than 80% in favour of a proposal, that decision will be upheld.

MAKING DEMOCRACY ACCESSIBLE
We will make our democracy more accessible and accountable to citizens. We will:

- ask the Metro (West of England region) mayor to attend and present to Bristol Cabinet meetings twice a year where there can be public questions;
- make council voting records transparent and easy to access.

MAKING POLITICS IN THE CITY MORE COLLABORATIVE
We will campaign for more collaboration in our political city life. We will:

- appoint a cross-party cabinet, where all parties with over seven councillors are represented at the heart of decision-making in the council;
- hold some council meetings in the Conference Hall to enable debate in the round, which is less oppositional and encourages more collaborative decision-making;
- move towards more compassion in politics by making sure that personal stories are heard alongside political and economic concerns. This could include measures such as inviting members of the public to share personal stories, statements and solutions at Cabinet and Full Council meetings.

GIVING POWER TO YOUNG PEOPLE
We will give power to young people in the city to influence decision making. We will:

- create a ‘Committee for the Future’ where young people can scrutinise and challenge policy based on how it will affect them in years to come;
- boost the role of the Youth Council, giving them a budget to spend on key youth priorities, and allowing them to propose ‘golden’ motions to Full Council;
- assign a representative for the future generations on each council scrutiny committee to allow young people to have a point of access and voice in decision-making;
- campaign to introduce voting at 16 for all elections.

REDISTRIBUTING POWER
We will redistribute the power held in the Mayor’s Office to bring power closer to the people. We will:

- support North Somerset joining WECA;
- respect the citizens’ right to hold a referendum on Bristol mayor positions in 2022, if the requisite number of signatures is gathered;
- make sure that the mayor holds regular question times and is physically present to listen to city groups on a regular basis;
- ensure the mayor or a cabinet member attends or responds to every scrutiny meeting;
- empower the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) to require a Full Council vote or citizens’ assembly to decide on major decisions that affect the city. These would include those that would involve high financial cost, enduring impact, and/or would affect large areas of Bristol or many citizens;
- make sure the mayor commits, in principle, to being bound by any decision of Full Council that is passed by a three-quarters majority;
- embed deliberative processes by building a database of citizens from which a randomly selected stratified assembly or jury could be chosen.

GREEN MAYOR’S MANIFESTO FOR CHANGE
Unlocking our potential through education

**OUR SOLUTION**

Everyone in Bristol has the right to a good education and equal opportunities from the day they are born. A good education is at the heart of making Bristol a fairer city. Children and families should have access to play and schooling close to home that meet the need of every child, in every area. Young adults have the right to accessible and supported routes into work or education. Older adults need varied and affordable classes to help them develop essential skills. The inequality in the city can be addressed if we hold our schools and training facilities to a higher standard, and offer better support networks. Lifelong learning is key and we aim to put libraries at the heart of learning for all ages across the city.

**THE PROBLEM**

National data shows that children attending some Bristol schools fail to achieve their potential, and Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) provision is a particular problem. On average, Bristol’s children do not attain to the national standards at GCSE and we know that the average figure hides a huge disparity between the highest and the lowest achieving schools. Our libraries are also under threat and their future is uncertain.
BUILDING LEARNING COMMUNITIES

We will build learning communities in our neighbourhoods. We will:

- bring our libraries into the 21st century by maintaining the libraries subsidy and examine setting up a trust to oversee their operation and improvement (the model of Libraries Unlimited in Devon);
- protect funding for youth centres, clubs and activities, including support for voluntary-run clubs and groups, and build a new youth club in Hartcliffe;
- support parents to be the best they can be, through ring-fencing funding for classes and support provisions and keeping children’s centres open;
- support the Bristol Learning City Partnership to build networks between schools and local colleges, universities, libraries and children’s centres, to help people of all ages take up learning opportunities.

SUPPORTING LIFELONG LEARNING PROVISION

We will ensure funding to support education for over-18s, especially to combat illiteracy and innumeracy.

IMPROVING STANDARDS IN EDUCATION

We will support an equal, high standard of formal and informal education for children and young people everywhere in the city. We will:

- review the outdated Education Capital Strategy as a matter of urgency to bring forward adequate places, now and into the future, for both our mainstream children and those with SEND;
- demand equitable cohorts to achieve a more equal spread of pupil premium (vulnerable and disadvantaged) children across the system, especially at secondary level. A Green administration would want all secondary schools to educate a representative cohort of our city’s children, and we will hold to account academies or schools with a faith designation that fail to move towards this in practice;
- monitor admission places in Bristol’s schools to ensure that no school discriminates against children due to wealth, class or race;
- expect school-level admission policies to prioritise places for those entitled to pupil premium as education law allows, enabling more disadvantaged and vulnerable children to attend apparently ‘outstanding’ schools;
- work with private schools that benefit from tax concessions related to a charitable status to bring transparency to the requirement to ‘create public benefit’ and maximise this for the benefit of all of Bristol’s children;
- support proposals for an early years play-based curriculum that promotes the development of a wider range of skills;
- protect parks and green spaces for play (for detailed policies see the environment section);
- fund play-work in the city, including support for adventure playgrounds;
- implement the post-16 strategy to reduce unemployment and give local people access to local jobs;
- work with Bristol’s universities to promote the courses they offer to our young people in Bristol and further integrate the universities’ work in the city.

“EVERYONE IN BRISTOL HAS THE RIGHT TO A GOOD EDUCATION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FROM THE DAY THEY ARE BORN”
Improving public health

We will foster neighbourhoods that are compact and well-connected, with local amenities that are easy to get to. This will mean that local people can get around on foot or by bike, keeping them physically active.

When creating planning policy we will plan urban environments that are more socially inclusive. We will involve people in making places that cater for a variety of needs, through the life-course and in different circumstances, promoting informal interaction through public open space.

THE PROBLEM

Bristolians living in the most deprived parts of the city die ten years earlier than those in the wealthiest parts. Figures for children living in poverty vary from 48% to under 6%, depending on where a child lives. Childhood obesity is increasing, while use of leisure facilities is declining. There is a crisis in adult social care funding.

OUR SOLUTION

We will help people to help themselves by ensuring that elders access the support that allows them to stay independent longer. We will promote and support better eating and an active lifestyle, using deprivation indicators to target help. Across the city, we will increase active travel - walking and cycling - to improve public health.

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“MAKING OUR STREETS SAFE WILL ENABLE CHILDREN TO PLAY AND BE ACTIVE AND HEALTHY”
MAKING BRISTOL A SUSTAINABLE FOOD CITY
We will:
• identify Bristol’s local ‘food deserts’ and focus on improving local provision of good quality, fresh food;
• support charities and other organisations that distribute surplus food waste;
• encourage food-growing programmes, including in schools, and identify more food-growing space across the city;
• commit to continuing the ‘Going for Gold’ Food Action Plan;
• work closely with food banks in Bristol to gather data on the root causes of food poverty and support their work to eliminate the need;
• support local traders and street markets to source local food and suppliers;
• continue to improve sustainable food procurement processes within the public sector, with a focus on local, organic and low-impact food;
• encourage the development of co-operatives and buying groups, to connect people to their food production and ensure a market for local food producers;
• limit access to, and advertising of junk food, by creating fast-food exclusion zones around schools, ending sponsorship of council events by junk food companies, and curbing street advertising of junk food, where possible.

PRIORITISING MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH
We will:
• make health, including mental health, a key priority for Bristol for all citizens, making sure that it informs all areas of the council’s activities;
• write a Mental Health Charter for Bristol that includes private, public and voluntary sector partners;
• invest in key services such as mental health advice, sexual health clinics and domestic violence refuges;
• ensure a particular focus on early intervention and prevention work with children and young people through schools, youth services, family teams and the voluntary sector.

MAKING SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY A KEY PART OF BRISTOL LIFE
We will:
• work with Bristol Sports Partnership to promote grassroots and community-led sports;
• focus particularly on engaging girls aged 9 and over;
• support active travel - walking and cycling - across the city so that people take regular exercise as part of daily routines;
• advertise exercise opportunities publicly in parks and promote swimming facilities better;
• improve public sports facilities, making sure that there are enough affordable public sports venues and events to meet local needs, including in parks;
• champion groups supporting sports teams and work with the city’s teams and clubs to give a higher profile to professional athletes within our city who we can be proud of;
• encourage employers to provide exercise facilities for staff within the workplace, or group exercise opportunities.

Sandy will lead Bristol towards more local and sustainable food choices
DELIVERING HIGH QUALITY SOCIAL CARE

As a city we should care most for those who need it: our parents and grandparents, brothers and sisters who need our care. Bristol can only be a fair city if we care. We will:

• prioritise early assessments and home adaptations to support people to remain at home;
• invest £10 million of capital into residential care homes to provide new homes for older people, saving £750,000 a year in revenue costs;
• support charities providing care to scale up their work through loans and capital investment, ensuring the highest quality of care;
• use the mayor’s voice to demand that the adult social care budget is funded nationally, like the NHS.

TACKLING DRUG MISUSE AS A HEALTH ISSUE

We will take a public health approach to the misuse of drugs in Bristol, protecting individuals and communities. We will:

• support the creation of safe injecting rooms;
• assist drug users out of the cycle of homelessness, drug use and criminality, through active support networks offering counselling and treatment;
• work with the police to ensure budgets are spent efficiently and appropriately, targeting distributors rather than those found in possession of drugs;
• ensure that alcohol, tobacco and prescription drugs are included in developing a city-wide drug misuse prevention strategy that includes all key stakeholders and protects communities;
• lobby nationally for drug policy reform, which would decriminalise and regulate possession of some substances.

Sandy will invest £10 million of capital into residential care homes
THE PROBLEM

Art and culture are the lifeblood of our city. Bristol is seen as an international destination for street art, for museums, for creative spirit. We recognise the value of arts and creative industries to our economy. We acknowledge the vital role that the arts play in how we grow and shape our city and in how voices can be heard from all communities.

The arts help to tell the stories of all our communities and tackle the issues of division and inequality. However, austerity has seen council support for the arts drastically reduced in the city. There is less funding for youth work and fewer grants are available. Changes to university funding have severely limited the number of adults who can access part-time courses.

OUR SOLUTION

We want to encourage the city’s creativity: to give it back its value and make it accessible to all. And we will bring in our cultural organisations to celebrate our town centres and high streets after the pandemic.

Bristol’s unique creativity is special. As Mayor, Sandy will support and nurture arts and culture.
SUPPORTING BRISTOL’S NIGHT-TIME ECONOMY

We will support Bristol’s night-time economy and protect nightlife and clubs in Bristol. We will:

- protect our grassroots music venues, using protective planning and licensing to make sure that existing venues are not threatened by noise complaints from new residential developments around them;
- keep the current number of sexual entertainment venues in Bristol, but offer greater support for workers.

SUPPORTING NEW ARTS PROJECTS

We will support the development of new arts projects in all communities. We will:

- include in planning rules a requirement for a range of cultural spaces, including arts and music venues, to be built in new developments;
- set up a register of ‘meanwhile’ temporary spaces available to help arts and cultural organisations where rising property prices threaten rehearsal spaces and artists’ studios.

SUPPORTING COMMUNITY FESTIVALS

We will work to support and protect festivals in the city that celebrate our cultural and arts communities, including the St Paul’s Carnival, the Lantern Parades, Upfest and more.

SUPPORTING ARTS OUTREACH

We will work with local arts institutions, including museums, to make sure that they reach out and help communities tell their stories, celebrate the culture and heritage of all communities, and expand the benefit of the arts to the whole city, not just the centre.

“We WANT TO ENCOURAGE THE CITY’S CREATIVITY. GIVE IT BACK ITS VALUE AND MAKE IT ACCESSIBLE TO ALL”
RECOVER.

THRIVE.

Promoted by David Wilcox on behalf of Sandy Hore–Ruthven and Bristol Green Party, 2 Narroways Road, Bristol BS2 9XB