



BRISTOL
CLIMATE ACTION



Bristol City Council Climate Emergency Action Plan

2026-2028

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Foreword

As I am among the majority of people in Bristol who are concerned or very concerned about climate change, I am pleased to bring you the latest Bristol City Council Climate Emergency Action Plan. It shows the high level of ambition the council has around climate action, sets out what we intend to do and shows what we have already achieved. Whilst the focus here is on climate, the projects within have many benefits for all of us – leading to job creation, improved and accessible transport, reduced costs and warmer homes.

Built on the successful delivery of the previous council administration, this new plan represents the collective input of our Environment and Sustainability Committee and that of our other committees whose work is expressed in the actions which have been drawn from across all council departments. These actions are a reflection of the council's new corporate strategy which includes a priority of climate and nature action.

We have done a lot of the actions in the 2022-2025 plan. We began operating Bristol City Leap to accelerate green energy investment in Bristol, we completed our streetlighting replacement work and we displayed the Think Global: Act Bristol exhibition at M-Shed. The council has also endorsed the Bristol Just Transition Declaration and sees that ensuring the costs and benefits of moving to being a carbon neutral city should be shared and that the changes do not further disadvantage people.

Bristol City Council's plan remains ambitious and inspirational. It represents real action on reducing emissions and becoming more resilient to the changing climate.

But there is more to do. As soon as this plan is published, we will begin developing the projects that will feature in the next plan. Those projects will be developed in response to the One City Climate Action Plan so that we can be sure we are contributing to the things we know are needed for Bristol to become a carbon neutral city.

It remains the case that council action alone will not be enough to reach carbon neutrality for the city. There is not enough public money available locally, regionally or nationally to finance the transition to net zero. The scale of climate action required is so large it needs to be funded predominantly by the private sector. But public sector financing can help make the difference in making projects viable for private investment.



Councillor Martin Fodor

Summary on a page

This plan describes the actions that Bristol City Council intends to take in the coming years to reduce greenhouse gases and also to adapt to the changing climate as our contribution to the city's [climate strategy](#). By taking the actions described in this plan, we aim to bring benefits like new jobs, healthier homes and lower bills as well as reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases that cause climate change.

Bristol City Council has been working on climate change for many years and is internationally recognised for this. We have significant ambitions to reduce our own emissions, help the city to reduce its emissions and improve the city's resilience to the impacts of the changing climate - such as higher temperatures and extreme rainfall - and the challenges these present to the city and our own operations. We are working towards all of these things, within the constraints of our financial budget.

We have achieved a lot since we published our previous action plan in 2022. We began operating [Bristol City Leap](#) which is accelerating green energy investment in Bristol; we completed our streetlighting replacement work and we displayed the Think Global: Act Bristol exhibition at M-Shed. We have also reduced the greenhouse gas emissions from our own operations in this period. We have done this through reducing our energy use in our buildings, use of green gas, replacing streetlights with LEDs and modernising our vehicle fleet. The completed actions from our previous plan are shown at [Appendix 2](#).

Tackling climate change needs action at all levels from the individual to the international. The city's climate strategy has a much greater and wider range of actions which require leadership and financing from many people and organisations, not just Bristol City Council.

You can make a difference through your daily choices and by getting involved in planning climate action. Personal choices that have a significant impact are (if you have a car) living without a car - use public transport, walk, wheel or cycle instead; (if you fly) reducing flying and renovating your home to reduce energy use.

Bristol's climate is already changing and will continue to change in the decades ahead. We have been taking action to help the council and the city cope with the impacts of climate change. We have actions in our new plan which help with adapting to the changed climate and the expected future climate.

A number of the actions listed in this new plan are ongoing and were part of our previous action plan. For example, Bristol City Leap is a significant climate action project with a 20 year lifespan. Other actions are newly added this year. These include a new programme of heat pump installations in council homes; creating new bus, walking and cycling facilities. A full list of our new actions is shown at [Appendix 1](#).

Introduction

This plan describes the actions that Bristol City Council intends to take in the coming years to reduce greenhouse gases and also to adapt to the changing climate as our contribution to delivering the city's climate strategy.

As well as reducing greenhouse gas emissions, there will be other benefits to the city, including;

- Helping people living in council-owned houses to have warmer homes which are cheaper to heat because we consider the whole of the house when we put in insulation
- Saving money on the running costs of our buildings by making energy efficiency improvements and replacing old boilers - this will mean more money in future years for delivering services
- Creating local green jobs and apprenticeships in the trades needed for this work
- Improving air quality in Bristol by making it easier for people who do not need to use

cars to walk, scoot or cycle around the city - this will improve people's health by reducing air pollution and increasing physical activity

- Lowering energy bills for future residents of new housing, by building more energy efficient homes through the new Local Plan and the new homes we build with Goram Homes
- Providing an income for local community groups through our local energy purchasing
- Helping communities come together through; continuing our role in supporting the [Community Climate and Nature Action Programme](#) which enables communities to have conversations that resonate with a diverse range of values and everyday concerns; through accessibility budgets to remove barriers to participation in events and activities and by publicly recognising that more than 80 per cent of people across Bristol are concerned about climate change¹.

1 [Bristol Quality of Life survey 2024/25](#), published by Bristol City Council



Members of the Bristol Youth Council present to the Council's Youth Climate Action Fund Celebration Event

We know that the UK's climate has both become wetter and has warmed steadily from the 1980s onwards. The Met Office reports that the last three years have been in the UK's top five warmest on record and that 2024 was the fourth warmest year in the series from 1884². Summer 2025 was the hottest on record for the UK³. We each know how this summer's heatwaves in Bristol felt and the effect these had on us. And many of us experienced the disruption caused by storms which we have come to expect as a normal part of the UK's climate.

While we at Bristol City Council will do all within our means to tackle the increase in greenhouse gas emissions which cause

2 [State of the UK Climate in 2024 - Kendon - 2025 - International Journal of Climatology - Wiley Online Library](#)
3 [An Attribution Study of the UK mean temperature in summer 2025](#), Logan et al, 2025, published by the Met Office



New highly insulated Council homes with heat pumps



Hillfields Community Garden Community Climate Action Project. Photo © Sally Collister

climate change, we also see the need to adapt to the impacts of the changing climate - such as heat waves and extreme rainfall - and the challenges these present to the city and our own operations.

For the UK to take action on climate change will cost money but not taking action will have a much greater cost. The report 'What will climate change cost the UK?'⁴ finds strong economic reasons for making the transition to net zero.

Action plans like this allow us to share what we are doing so everyone can see:

- the types of action Bristol City Council is taking to tackle the Climate Emergency
- the level of our commitment to reducing emissions today and preparing for tomorrow
- what has been achieved since our last plan and the progress the council is making

- our integrated approach to tackling the climate and ecological emergencies as part of tackling other city priorities – this creates many benefits for the city at the same time

A number of the actions listed in this plan are ongoing and were part of our previous climate emergency action plan. For example, [Bristol City Leap](#) is a significant climate action project with a 20 year lifespan. Other actions are newly added this year.

At the time of writing, councils in England do not receive government funding allocated to them specifically to undertake climate action, so they must find the money for this themselves. We have included in our plan some actions which we would like to take but for which we have not yet identified funding - these are clearly shown in the table of all the proposed actions at [Appendix 1](#).

⁴ [What will climate change cost the UK?](#) Rising et al, 2022, published by the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, London School of Economics and Political Science

Our previous work

Bristol City Council has been working on climate change for many years and is internationally recognised for this. We have significant ambitions to reduce our own emissions, help the city to reduce its emissions and improve the city's resilience to the impacts of the changing climate such as floods and heatwaves. We are working towards these ambitions, within the constraints of our financial budget.

In 2018, we were the first council in the UK to state that our response as a city to climate change should be treated like an emergency situation - this was the Declaration of Climate Emergency. Others followed. Since then, a climate change team has been created in Bristol City Council and in many other UK councils with more action happening on climate change as a result.

In 2019, we set an ambition for Bristol City Council to be carbon neutral for the emissions from our own operations that are directly under our control by the end of 2025/26. We made strong progress up to the end of 2024/2025, achieving a 66 per cent reduction over our 2015/16 baseline. This puts us ahead of other comparable councils. We now have a [Healthy and Sustainable Procurement Policy](#) which helps reduce the climate impact of the things we buy.

Bristol City Council paid for the production of the [One City Climate Strategy](#), published in February 2020. We also funded the associated [evidence](#) upon which the strategy was



Children outside a School Street (for safer walking, cycling and wheeling).

based. The strategy is now being used as a framework to guide the action and communicate the investment needed to achieve a carbon neutral and climate resilient Bristol – that is to say achieving reduced city greenhouse gas emissions and adapting so the city can cope with the impacts of the changing climate. We developed and published the [Keep Bristol Cool Mapping Tool](#) to better understand future temperature increases in Bristol. We worked with the Met Office to develop the [Bristol Climate Pack](#), which describes how different climate change scenarios would affect Bristol. Both of these actions will help us to plan better.

We created the trailblazing [Bristol City Leap](#) energy partnership to help deliver significant low carbon energy infrastructure at a large scale including expanding our heat networks across the city and installing heat pumps (which are a non-fossil fuel alternative to gas boilers) in buildings that are not connected to the heat network. The [heat network](#) is a big network of insulated, underground water-filled pipes that will be further developed to distribute heat around the city to use for space heating and hot water. Already there are numerous buildings connected to it and a very large water source heat pump operating at Castle Park supplying low carbon heat to local homes.

In 2020, we launched the [Bristol Climate Hub](#) website which offers suggestions on what people can do to benefit themselves and the environment. And we created [videos](#) telling the stories of Bristolians who are doing things they enjoy that are also good for the climate.

We are a key sponsor of city organisations including Bristol Climate and Nature Partnership. Our sponsorship supports the

core costs of the partnership which enables them to run things like the [Climate Action Programme](#) to help businesses and voluntary sector organisations reduce their emissions and adapt to the changing climate. There are currently 17 Community Climate Action Plans in the city – 11 of which represent different neighbourhoods of the city and six represent communities of people from across the city such as Disabled people. We also play our part in their [Community Climate Action Programme](#) supporting communities to plan what to do about climate change and share what they learn. In 2022, we awarded £95,000 of grant funding to community organisations for climate and nature projects. We also ran a series of eight innovative learning and exchange events aimed at the most grassroots of groups from excluded and marginalised groups across the city.

What Bristol City Council can do

This action plan sets out the things we intend to do now – those things that are our responsibility or where we are best placed to act, working within our financial budget. Following on from our [Climate Emergency Action Plan 2022-2025](#), it includes the changes we plan to make to achieve our ambition to be carbon neutral for the emissions from our own operations which are under our direct control (such as from heating and lighting our offices and powering the vehicles we use to deliver our services). We aim to reduce these emissions as much as we can towards zero. We do not plan to use carbon offsetting (a process where equivalent emissions reductions made elsewhere can be bought in place of making your own emissions reductions).

This action plan also lists the large-scale changes we intend to make in the city which would have a benefit to the climate; this includes work being done mainly to improve air quality and people's physical health - such as the South Bristol Liveable Neighbourhood - as well as work aimed at improving transport, like installing new bus lanes. This plan also includes the things we are doing in partnership with others, for example the [Bristol City Leap](#) energy partnership to create investment in low carbon energy infrastructure for the city.

The plan describes what we are doing to play our part in the city's much larger climate strategy – the [One City Climate Strategy](#). But the actions to achieve that city strategy are different and bigger than this Bristol City Council Climate Emergency Action Plan. The city strategy sits under Bristol's [One City Plan](#) which has set climate action as one of its priority 'Missions'. The One City Plan has supporting Boards of organisations working together to carry out projects that will improve Bristol. Of those Boards, the One City Environment Board works collaboratively on environmental sustainability aspects of the One City Plan. The One City Climate Strategy is a city document commissioned by the One City Environment Board. It is not owned by Bristol City Council. The city's strategy has a much greater and wider range of actions which require leadership and action from many more people and organisations. It would not be possible to achieve the city's strategy through this Bristol City Council Climate Emergency Action Plan alone.

Our commitments on climate change are shown in our new [Corporate Strategy](#). There are things that the council can do directly. There are things we can enable others to do. And there are things we will campaign for where we need others to do something to enable us to act

- things like campaigning for government investment where we need it.

We have a corporate priority to accelerate climate action and nature recovery. It means we need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (often referred to in shorthand as carbon emissions) and drive progress towards Bristol becoming a carbon neutral city as well as improve the resilience of Bristol's people and places to the impacts of climate change. We propose actions here to help with those. Our actions for nature recovery concerning the management of land, water and buildings in the city for nature are in our newly updated Bristol City Council Ecological Emergency Action Plan.

A large part of the city's greenhouse gas emissions come from the way people heat their homes and the way people travel. Therefore, our corporate priorities to create safe, healthy neighbourhoods and affordable, safe and good quality homes and to make it easier, greener and safer to travel into and around Bristol are relevant. Actions on these priorities which also have a climate benefit are included in this plan too.



Metrobus M2 drives over the River Avon

What we have done since our last plan

Our actions:

- 1.** Six of the actions were not completed and will not be carried forward to the new plan. For two actions the plans were superseded by a different plan and will be continued under those plans. For the other four actions there were funding challenges which meant we could not continue such as the funding for the action being withdrawn by government. One of these actions will be replaced by a similar project for which funding has become available.
- 2.** Twenty one of the actions have been completed and closed (see [Appendix 2](#)).
- 3.** Thirty two of the actions have been started but not fully completed. Many of these are ongoing actions which we will need to keep doing in successive plans.

The number of requests from other cities in the UK and internationally asking us to share our experience would indicate Bristol is leading on much of this work. We also ensure we learn from other cities on those issues where others are ahead. A summary of the progress we have made in relation to our last plan is given below.

Our own operations

We have continued to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions that result directly from our own operations. We have done this by reviewing what we have and then replacing things with low carbon alternatives where we can.

We allocated £28 million of capital funding to reduce the council's carbon footprint and have invested it in projects to reduce energy use which will reduce our energy bills. Some of this has been used to invest in our buildings, such as updating the lighting in our offices at Temple Street and in 14 libraries with super-efficient LED

lighting and in new low carbon heating systems. We operate a substantial fleet of vehicles to deliver our services and we have invested in more charge points and new electric vehicles. Some 23 per cent of the vehicles our colleagues drive to deliver our services are now Battery Electric Vehicles powered by renewable electricity. We have replaced all the bulbs in our streetlights with the latest technology LED bulbs. This has reduced the electricity consumption from street lighting by more than half.

Further investment is planned and this is included in the action plan. Our investment in projects like this is normally financed by loans from the government. However, we have also taken the opportunity to try something new to enable local people to invest in these actions through the [Bristol Climate Action Investment](#).

Street Lighting Replacement Scheme

Our street lighting replacement scheme ran from 2022 to 2025 over which time more than 36,000 lights were replaced, including city-wide streetlights and zebra crossings, and heritage lanterns in parks and along the harbour.

Outdated lights were replaced with the latest generation of LEDs and new Control Management System equipment was added. The LEDs have a longer lifespan and need significantly less energy to power them. The new system



New LED lights outside Bristol Cathedral

allows remote changes to brightness and duration by individual lamp or in groups whereas before each street light would have to be visited individually to make any changes. It also gives us the ability to dim lights in areas to protect wildlife or increase illumination for events or emergencies and provides real-time data, allowing us to identify and respond to faults more quickly.

The replacement programme had been estimated to save half of the electricity used for street lighting, but has actually saved even more. It saved half of the electricity used by all Highways infrastructure (street lighting, traffic signals, lit road signs and bollards). In the first year alone, the new lighting saved 1.5 million kilowatt-hours of electricity compared to the previous year. Over the next decade, the new lighting is projected to save nearly 13,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide, equating to approximately £1.8 million a year in energy and maintenance costs.

Since 2022, we have put in place new processes and made improvements to buildings. We developed and are now using new management systems to embed greenhouse gas emissions reduction, be more resilient to climate change and make space for nature in our major building projects. We also put in place a new assessment process for all the decisions made by council committees, including an assessment of the impact of new projects on greenhouse gas emissions and their resilience.

The goods and services we buy make up a substantial part of our total climate change impact. To address this we developed a [Healthy and Sustainable Procurement Policy](#) and processes supported by a dedicated officer in the procurement service. Environment and sustainability is now included within Bristol Social Value Measures which are scored tender criteria for suppliers. Councillor and staff training on the Climate and Ecological Emergencies continues, led by a dedicated member of staff. These were projects we started under our Climate and Ecological Emergency Programme and incorporated into our normal operations.

Our work in the wider city

We are playing our part in delivering the [One City Climate Strategy](#) through the things we do in the city, the things we enable other city organisations to do and via campaigning.

The One City Climate Strategy has 10 themes and we contribute to all of them. For example, we have achieved a significant amount of action under the strategy themes of Transport, Electricity, Heat decarbonisation (lowering the greenhouse gas emissions that come from heating buildings) and Buildings, which are described below. Our action on other areas of the strategy is shown in the table of completed actions at [Appendix 2](#).

Making it easier, greener and safer to travel into and around Bristol

Transport and travel work usually looks to tackle things other than climate change and these result in immediate improvements to quality of life. When people who do not need to use cars can walk, wheel or cycle instead of driving, this reduces pollution and increases their physical activity which are both better for health. For example, the creation of a Clean Air Zone and a multi-million-pound package of mitigation was one of the most significant health interventions in the city in decades, and the removal of general traffic cutting through the heart of the city along Baldwin Street helped to protect bus services at their most vulnerable over the course of the pandemic. But transport and travel work often has the additional benefit of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Where this was the case, the actions are included in the plan.

The funding for these big transport improvements comes from the government, and councils have to make the case to receive that funding via their regional combined authority. We succeeded in securing an unprecedented level of investment in Bristol's transport system over the last five years. This enabled us to do a large amount in the transport area of our action plan including, but not limited to, the following actions.

We worked together with partners to make better walking and cycling links, new train stations and improvements to bus routes. We worked with partners to help create the Portway Park and Ride and Ashley Down Rail Stations. We pedestrianised Princess Victoria Street, Cotham Hill, and parts of the Old City and the Bus Gate at Bristol Bridge. We created new segregated cycle routes including along Victoria Steet, Park Row and Upper Maudlin Street and also along Whitehouse Lane where we created bus lanes in support of the Bedminster Green development.

We completed Bristol's first Liveable Neighbourhood pilot making streets safer for walking and cycling and enhancing local bus services. We made 526 cycle spaces in new cycle hangars, 186 of which were reserved for people living in social housing. We made the Cumberland Road Bus Gate to improve the reliability of the M2 metrobus service and we created 13 [School Streets](#) (a road outside a school with a restriction on motorised traffic at the start and end of the school day) at schools across the city to encourage more people to walk, scoot and cycle to school.

Our Electric Vehicle Centre of Excellence loaned a fleet of 55 vehicles to small businesses free of charge to encourage them to replace their internal combustion engine vans and cars with electric vehicles (EVs). We started work on the regional Cycling Centre to support cycle training and inclusive cycling. We installed one EV charge point to our Revive public network and a further two chargers in our fleet depots.

Buildings, electricity and heat decarbonisation

Since we published our last action plan, our innovative [Bristol City Leap](#) has started operating. It is a very significant partnership between Bristol City Council and Ameresco UK which will accelerate green energy investment in Bristol and help towards decarbonising the whole city. Bristol City Leap is in the process of carrying out decarbonisation projects to the value of £51 million, many of which focus on the council's corporate estate, social housing, vehicle charging and connecting new buildings to the heat network.

Within this, Bristol City Leap is delivering approximately £24 million worth of energy-efficiency measures, such as wall and loft insulation, window and door replacement, solar and air source heat pump installation on our social housing. We carried out a whole-house retrofit pilot on 25 Bristol City Council owned non-standard construction properties. This led to a larger programme through Bristol City Leap to insulate over 400 more council-owned homes, including houses, high-rise and low-rise blocks of flats.

A further £10 million of energy efficiency measures (things like new windows and doors and better lighting) have been installed in private homes where households are in or at risk of fuel poverty in Bristol and neighbouring Local Authorities. Through this scheme, known as Bright Green Homes, we provided insulation, solar panels and heat pumps free of charge to over 100 Bristol homeowners on low incomes.

These energy efficiency works for homes not only reduce greenhouse gas emissions but also deliver immediate benefits for residents including lower heating costs and a more comfortable living space.



Bristol City Leap employee talking with a community member

Bristol City Leap – Bright Green Homes

In our 2022-2025 plan we introduced our action to deliver grant funded programmes installing energy efficiency measures and low carbon heat for households on low incomes which included the [Bright Green Homes programme](#) carried out by [Bristol City Leap](#).

Bright Green Homes provides free home upgrades for eligible homeowners and private rental tenants across Bristol, North Somerset and Bath and North East Somerset. Over the last three years, it has helped over 400 homes by installing fully funded measures like solar panels, insulation, new windows and air source heat pumps.

Claire is a Bristol resident who has received free solar panels through the scheme and says of it, *“I would encourage anyone who fits the eligibility criteria to go ahead and get it done, there is no reason not to. Interacting with the City Leap team was great, it was a good experience.”*

Bright Green Homes is government funded. It has received further funding to continue delivering energy upgrades to eligible homes to March 2028. So it will be part of our 2026-2028 plan, too.

To increase take-up of energy efficiency measures in the wider city, we worked with and promoted [Retrofit West](#) which is a homeowner advice and business support service launched in July 2023 and funded by the [West of England Mayoral Combined Authority](#). Over 500 households in Bristol have benefited from a part-funded home assessment to help them understand the best next steps to improve the energy efficiency of their home.

Alongside these projects, Vattenfall - Ameresco’s essential subcontractor – is delivering a significant extension of the city heat network which already supplies heating and hot water in the centre of Bristol. Eleven new buildings have been connected to the network and a fourth heat network area in St Philip’s has begun construction.

To support future heat network expansion, we have been working with the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero to prepare for the government’s heat network zoning policy implementation as part of their [Advanced Zoning Programme](#). Bristol will be one of the first places in the UK where heat network zones are implemented.

We continue to invest in new homes across our city. We have reviewed the Local Plan which sets policies for new buildings and development including policies to reduce the emissions from new buildings and to improve their climate resilience. In our 2022-2025 action plan we set out actions to build low and zero carbon homes. This is a long-term programme of work but we have already finished the 16 new affordable homes at New Kingsland where heating and hot water is provided by a heat pump. A number of the other actions are almost complete.

We have been engaging regularly with the electricity and gas network operators about the city's plans for decarbonisation and the impact these plans would have so that those organisations can prepare. We are also engaging with the new National Energy System Operator as it starts to plan the future energy system for the South West region.

Since 2022, a Bristol City Council initiative called [Building Bristol](#) has offered tailored guidance to help developers and contractors prepare their Employment and Skills Plans and connect with local organisations, education settings, talent pipelines and employment networks. It is essential to have contractors with the skills to do the work to change the city to a low carbon city and for people to want to take up such careers. To help with that, we trained all our careers advisors to use the West of England Mayoral Combined Authorities' [Home - Skills Connect](#) website to promote green careers pathways.

National, international and cultural actions

Bristol is a Mission City under the [European Union's Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission](#) which aims to support 112 cities to achieve carbon neutrality by tackling barriers and securing investment.

With support from this network of cities and expert advisors, we convened a group of city-wide organisations to work together to create three documents:

- A [Statement of Commitment](#) which sets out the main actions that the council and city partners have already committed to take, linked to the One City Climate Strategy.
- A [One City Climate Action Plan](#) which sets out the actions needed to deliver the goals of the One City Climate Strategy: those actions city partners have committed to take as well as the additional actions required for decarbonisation.

- A [One City Climate Investment Plan](#) which sets out the investment and funding needed to deliver the One City Climate Action Plan.

We secured the official EU Mission endorsement or Label for this work. This is a mark of the European Commission's confidence in the quality of Bristol's plans and is a powerful means of demonstrating credibility to potential future investors in city climate projects. It also gives Bristol access to the [Climate City Capital Hub](#), an international finance resource to help secure the substantial investment needed to reduce the city's emissions.

A major cultural action we took was to display the 'Think Global: Act Bristol' exhibition at the M-Shed.

Think Global: Act Bristol

The [Think Global: Act Bristol](#) interactive climate change exhibition was displayed at the M-Shed from July to October 2022. It explored big themes affecting people locally and globally, through Bristol histories and the voices of Bristolians. It helped to support connection and inclusive action recognising this topic can often be divisive or feel overwhelming. It aimed to leave people feeling more confident in their power to make change. The entry policy was pay what you can.

The exhibition was the idea of the council's Culture Service who co-created it with a Steering Group of local people and organisations to ensure it presented a wide range of thoughts and perspectives. Objects from the Bristol Museums and Art Galleries collection were displayed to help people consider the connections between the development of Bristol as a city and current environmental and climate justice issues. Beautiful art commissions helped to make visible and relatable to

visitors some of the invisible issues like amounts of greenhouse gases, amounts of clothing going to waste and changing numbers of wildlife populations.

The exhibition was complemented by outreach community engagement activities including the creation of a specific space for grassroots and communities to use for free, and for people to discuss their responses to seeing the exhibition and to enable them to take action individually or together. Community members were also available to discuss with people the current challenges of climate change in Bristol and the work being done by people across the city to help address them.



The Think Global Act Local Exhibition at the M Shed

Photo © Simon Halliday

As well as gaining European funding, we also secured over £100,000 from the Bloomberg Philanthropies' Youth Climate Action Fund to distribute to local projects. We were one of 100 cities selected for this global programme. We worked with the [Centre for Sustainable Energy](#), to distribute grants from £800 to £3,500 to projects co-created with young people. The successful projects were decided by a diverse panel including a young person alongside youth, community and climate experts. The 11 projects in round one and 18 projects in round two ranged from increasing green skills - like bike maintenance, gardening, vegetable growing and cooking - to making and showing climate films and a campaign encouraging people to get the most out of their clothes.

In response to Bristol's successful climate work, the former mayor and now the Leader of Bristol City Council were asked by the UK's [Core Cities](#) to represent them on climate change. The Leader is the Clean Energy Mission Lead for Core Cities UK and represents this alliance at the government's forum for local council engagement on net zero.

Climate finance

We are currently leading the multi-partner [Mission Net Zero](#) project which aims to speed up Bristol and the West of England's climate action by working with local people to address some of the barriers to progress, such as finding money for improvements and having the skilled professionals to do them. The project was awarded £5 million from Innovate UK which was used to support three communities in Bristol to develop community climate investment plans, to build support for climate action through making a strategic West of England clean energy investment plan and to train local people to develop the skills needed for climate action.

As a Mission City, we were able to access European funding to help us make progress. We successfully applied for the maximum amount of £1.3 million which we used to find new ways to fund the climate work that we and others in Bristol and the West of England wish to undertake in a project called the Net Zero Investment Co-Innovation Lab.



Youth round table climate event with leaders at City Hall



Electric home to school travel vehicle



Solar panels on a Bristol roof

Net Zero Investment Co-Innovation Lab

This project established three new ways to fund climate work and created related capacity. The first of these was the [Bristol Climate Action Investment](#). This is publicly available via an investment platform developed by project partner [Abundance Investment](#). It is a new way for residents to fund local green projects. Its structure - with an accessible platform and a £5 minimum investment - lowers barriers to entry while building local ownership of the transition and, crucially, making citizens aware of what climate action looks like in practice through a highly successful, disruptive advertising campaign.

The investment was raised over two rounds in the spring and autumn of 2025. The campaign was so successful that the second raise (where people were invited to invest) closed ahead of schedule having reached the target of £2 million. The buildings that will benefit from the money raised will provide a range of services for local people including children's respite care and community facilities at the Belbrook

Children's Respite Unit and Ridingleaze Social Services Office in Lawrence Weston, together with the Symes Avenue Social Services building in Hartcliffe.

The second new method was the Green Growth West Fund. This is a new £100 million regional impact fund being established in the West of England and wider South West, with a £10 million cornerstone investment from the [West of England Mayoral Combined Authority](#). In partnership with specialist fund manager Amber Infrastructure and leading regional impact investor and project partner [BBRC](#), it is designed to invest in the region's mid-scale infrastructure and growth-ready businesses to help them seize the opportunities of the Net Zero transition. It aims to address an identifiable market need for growth finance faced by small and medium sized businesses in the region and could supercharge the region's renewable energy, low-carbon transport and nature recovery efforts.

The third method was the Bristol Development Climate Action Fund. It was

originally intended as a planning policy tool to enable developers to compensate for the unavoidable carbon impacts of their new developments through local contributions. It will be implemented when the new Local Plan is adopted.

An advisory group of people from local and national finance institutions, pension funds and academia was established to guide Lab financial product design and consider what other products were needed. The project ensured the voluntary and community sector were included by working with them via project partner [Bristol Climate and Nature Partnership](#) to understand their needs and to develop the case for investable projects. Case studies were combined to form the novel [Community Climate Action prospectus](#) showing the potential for community-led climate action to improve quality of life. Subsequent research explored potential for a Community Climate Action Fund to enable corporates to fund local community-led climate and nature action projects.

In 2023, we published the [Keep Bristol Cool Framework](#) - our plan for managing heat related risks to the city's population, public services and assets.

In 2024, the Outline Business Case for the Bristol Avon Flood Strategy was approved by the council and the Environment Agency. This is an important step in delivering this long-term project, which will protect homes and businesses within central Bristol from the increasing risk of flooding from the River Avon.



Street trees in Knowle providing cooling shade

Adapting to our changing climate

The Keep Bristol Cool Mapping Tool is a strategic resource that was developed by Bristol City Council in partnership with the Met Office and the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research. Funded by the UK Climate Resilience Programme, the tool helps identify and address urban heat vulnerability across Bristol.

It features two core map sets: the Heat Vulnerability Index and Climate Maps. The index combines data on population demographics, housing, land surface temperatures and green infrastructure to show the neighbourhoods most at risk from heat-related health impacts. The Climate Maps give information on possible temperature rises for different neighbourhoods in the city for the rest of this century. The key benefits are:

- Targeted Planning: Enables planners and policymakers to focus interventions -like green infrastructure or housing retrofits - where they are most needed
- Health Protection: Supports public health professionals by identifying communities most vulnerable to heatwaves
- Climate Adaptation: Provides future climate projections to inform long-term resilience strategies and infrastructure planning
- Data Accessibility: Offers downloadable datasets and interactive maps for deeper analysis and integration into local strategies

Just Transition

The idea of Just Transition is to ensure that no one is left behind in the move to a low carbon economy and that the associated costs and benefits are not placed unequally on people. It is about making sure that the needs of everyone are considered when making changes so that when changes take place things are not made more difficult for people who are already experiencing difficulties.

In 2023, four women working for Bristol community organisations representing or working with marginalised or disadvantaged groups wrote a [Just Transition Declaration](#) to add to Bristol's Climate and Ecological Emergency Declarations and strategies. It contains a set of ten principles that everyone working on climate change and nature loss in the city can use to make their plans as fair as possible. Bristol City Council endorsed the Just Transition Declaration in 2023 as did several other city organisations.

In using the principles of the declaration Bristol City Council has sought the views of the Bristol Community Leadership Panel on Climate and Just Transition to inform the design of the [Bristol Climate Action Investment](#) and asked the panel to make an initial assessment of the actions in the One City Climate Action Plan (the city's action plan which guides city action on climate change).

Recognising that Just Transition needs to be embedded in top-down policies to have impact, there was a strong push to get some robust content and actions within the One City Climate Action Plan.

Since endorsing the declaration, our teams now apply its principles more widely so there is more consideration of Just Transition, for example within applications for funding for climate change work.



Nature learning exchange event for grassroots community groups

Reducing Bristol City Council’s emissions

The whole picture of our emissions can be divided into three categories called scopes:

- **Scope 1** – greenhouse gas that is emitted directly from the council’s vehicle fleet and gas usage, including in heating our buildings
- **Scope 2** – greenhouse gas that is emitted from electricity usage including streetlighting and lighting our buildings
- **Scope 3** – greenhouse gas emissions from sources that the council does not own or control, such as goods and services that we buy and the construction and use of buildings we own that are used by somebody else, for example academy schools and council-owned homes

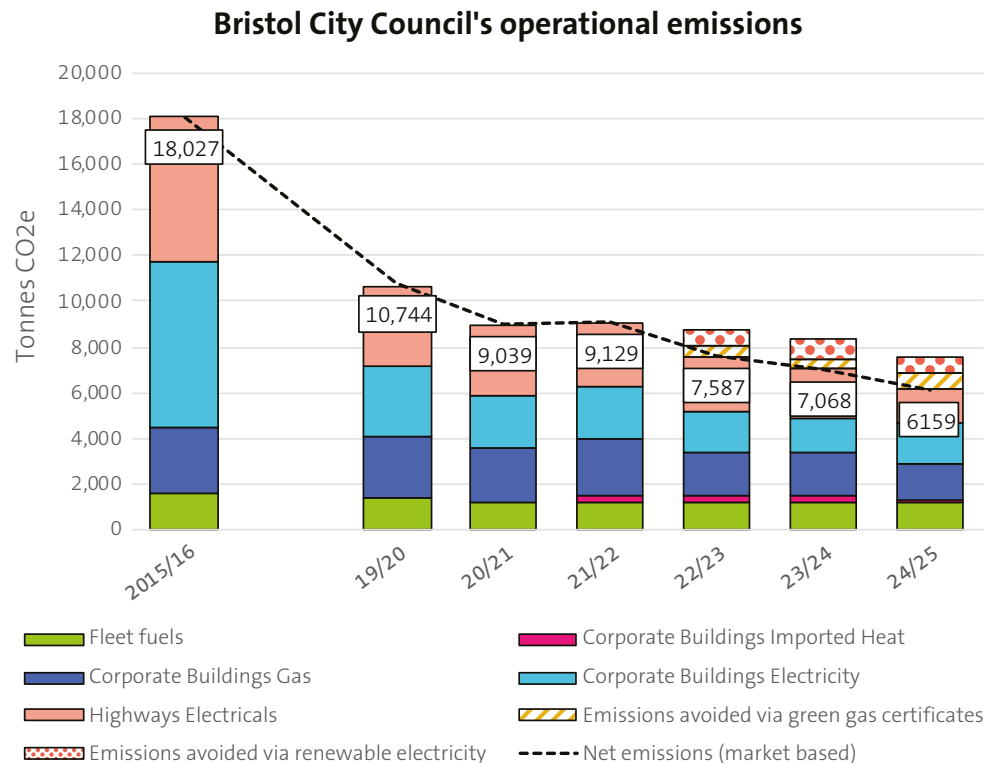
We have direct control over Scope 1 and 2 emissions. Whereas we can influence scope 3 emissions but do not have direct control to reduce them. In 2019, we set an ambition for Bristol City Council to be carbon neutral for the emissions from our own operations that are directly under our control by the end of 2025/26 and have made good progress towards this. Figure 1 shows progress to date on this ambition using our own data.

These significant reductions are the result of actions we have taken to reduce our energy use in our buildings, use of green gas for some

of our most gas-intensive operations, replacing streetlights with LEDs and modernising our vehicle fleet. The decarbonisation of electricity supplied from the national grid also contributed significantly to the reduction in the council’s emissions from electricity.

We will continue to improve the way we monitor our emissions in line with global best practice. This will include accounting for our indirect scope 3 emissions.

Figure 1: Our operational emissions



Reducing the city's emissions

Bristol's greenhouse gas emissions are reducing. In 2023, the city's emissions were 56 per cent lower than in 2005.

By 2030, we expect them to be 60-65 per cent lower than in 2005. Whilst good progress is being made in many areas, there is still a lot of action needed on all levels - from the individual to the international - to bring our city in line with its fair share of emissions reductions consistent with the current global ambition (to keep global temperatures from going more than 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels).

Bristol's greenhouse gas emissions are measured in two different ways expressed as a carbon dioxide equivalent. These two ways are:

- **Territorial emissions** – those arising directly from activities happening within the city boundaries including using electricity and gas in homes and businesses and petrol and diesel on our roads and emissions from waste disposal (see Figure 2).
- **Consumption emissions** – those arising from buying goods or services produced outside the city and regional, national and international travel by Bristol residents.

The biggest areas of greenhouse gas emissions for Bristol come from how we each choose to travel, how we heat our homes and what we buy (consumption).

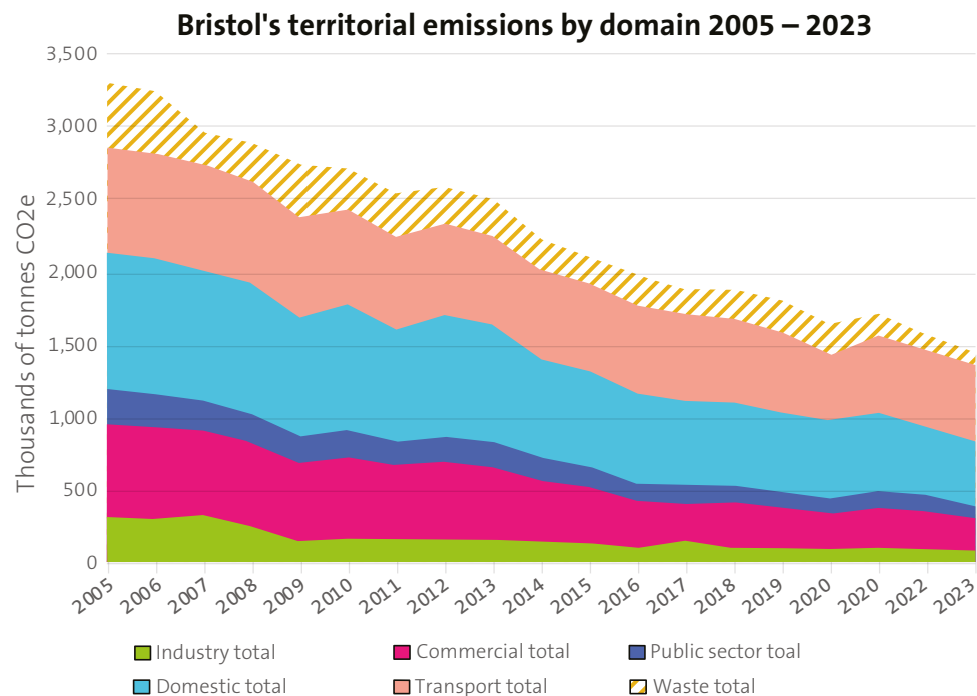


Figure 2: The city of Bristol's territorial emissions (drawn from data collected by the UK Government Department of Energy Security and Net Zero) www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-local-authority-and-regional-greenhouse-gas-emissions-statistics

What can I do?

Personal actions which reduce greenhouse gas emissions are important as well as those taken by organisations and governments.

People in Bristol are already taking action at scale, but knowing the scale of the crisis many want to do more.

Some people have constraints to certain actions and as per our commitment to a Just Transition ([page 20](#)) the city needs to acknowledge this and offer support.

Making changes to our daily choices and getting involved in community climate action can and does make a difference, and bring benefits, for example for our health and for nature.

One of the best ways to get ideas and inspiration for climate action is from people just like us. [Bristol Climate Hub](#) has stories from people right across Bristol, from all walks of life.

If you can't access the Hub website, here's a list of the most impactful actions to aim for – choose what's appropriate for you. For example, if your close friends and family live on another continent, your decision on flying will be different from someone taking lots of city breaks each year.

- Switching to living without a car - use public transport, walk, wheel or cycle instead
- Reducing flying
- Engage in your city – supporting local businesses instead of big online retailers, using your library and other local facilities, joining together in collective action like the Community Climate and Nature Action project
- Refurbishment and renovation of your home to reduce your energy use and switching to a heat pump instead of a gas boiler. Good places to look for help with this in Bristol are the Bright Green Homes programme and Retrofit West or for general advice visit the [Energy Saving Trust](#)

- Buying fewer things new (like clothes and electrical and electronic goods) - and making the things you buy last longer
- Don't believe misinformation, such as about the effectiveness of climate actions, or about reduced concern for climate change, and counter misinformation when you safely can
- Eating less meat and fewer dairy products, using the money saved to support local farmers by buying their products



Cyclist in Shirehampton

Climate resilience

Bristol’s climate is already changing and will continue to change in the decades ahead. As part of our Corporate Strategy 2025–2030, Bristol City Council is committed to strengthening the city’s resilience. We have a corporate objective to prepare our people and places to adapt to the growing impacts of climate change.

The council delivers essential services, manages key infrastructure and manages and maintains 28,824 properties for residents in Bristol. We will take action to make these better prepared for and able to withstand climate change. We will use the [Keep Bristol Cool Framework](#) as our plan for managing heat related risks to the city’s population, public services and assets.

The Bristol Avon Flood Strategy is an important resilience project. The Outline Business Case for this has been approved by the council and the Environment Agency and we continue to work together on this project to manage flood risk in Bristol.

Why do we need to be resilient to climate change?

The changes to our climate that we will face up to 2050 are largely driven by past greenhouse gas emissions, while today’s efforts to cut emissions will shape the climate we experience from 2050 onwards⁵. We are already seeing:

- Warmer, wetter winters
- Hotter, drier summers
- More frequent and intense weather extremes

To protect our communities, infrastructure and natural environment, we must act now. By adapting to these changes, we can reduce risks and unlock opportunities to improve public health, enhance biodiversity, and strengthen our city’s resilience.

⁵ [Independent Assessment of UK Climate Risk Advice to Govt for CCRA3-CCC.pdf](#)

The [Bristol Preliminary Climate Resilience Assessment](#) identified that flooding, sea level rise and extreme heat are the most significant climate change hazards for Bristol. We are already seeing impacts from these, including:

- Flooding of key transport routes and people’s homes
- Damage to roads from extended wet periods and high temperatures
- Increased hospital admissions and mortality rates during heatwaves
- Overheating of homes and workplaces
- Damage to greenspaces from both extreme wet and extreme heat
- More wildfires

Bristol’s future climate

We worked with the Met Office to understand what Bristol’s future climate could look like. Their projections are brought together in the [Bristol City Pack](#). The projections show significant shifts in temperature, rainfall, and sea levels depending on the level of success of global greenhouse gas reduction efforts.






The following table shows how climate change could affect Bristol’s climate. The lower numbers are based on the world warming on average by 2°C by 2100 and the higher numbers are based on the world warming by over 4°C by 2100.

We have been taking action in relation to climate resilience and we will continue to have actions in our plan which help with adapting to the changed climate and the expected future climate.



Flooded pavement outside a Bristol school

Table 1: Bristol’s potential future climate

		2030s	2050s	2080s	
	Summer Average Air Temperature (°C)	+1.0 to +2.2	+1.7 to +3.9	+3.1 to +7.6	↑
	Summer Maximum Air Temperature (°C)	+1.1 to +2.6	+2.0 to +4.5	+3.5 to +8.9	↑
	Winter Average Air Temperature (°C)	+0.7 to +1.6	+1.1 to +2.6	+1.7 to +4.6	↑
	Winter Maximum Air Temperature (°C)	+0.7 to +1.7	+1.2 to +2.9	+1.8 to +5.1	↑
	Annual Average Air Temperature (°C)	+0.8 to +1.6	+1.3 to +2.7	+2.2 to +5.1	↑
	Summer Precipitation Rate (%)	-7 to -29	-12 to -42	-23 to -62	↓
	Winter Precipitation Rate (%)	+6 to +19	+9 to +27	+16 to +51	↑
	Sea Level Change (m)	+0.14 to +0.19	+0.24 to +0.36	+0.42 to +0.72	↑

Bristol City Council's new Climate Emergency Action Plan 2026-2028

What we will do under this plan

This action plan summarises the action being taken by Bristol City Council as our contribution to the delivery of the One City Climate Strategy. We also have a separate, detailed [action plan for the decarbonisation of homes that we own](#) and [one for making warm homes in Bristol more broadly](#), both of which we reference within this plan.

The 90 actions we intend to take are set out in [Appendix 1](#) of this document. The actions include those that relate only to Bristol City Council's operations as well as those that enable the wider city to make progress on decreasing emissions and campaigning actions.

Many of our actions to help wider city climate action have already begun and will continue under this plan. A summary of our 2026 – 2028 action plan is given below.

Reducing the greenhouse gas emissions from our own operations

Work remains to be done both to reduce the remaining greenhouse gas emissions over which we have direct control that result from our own operations and to ensure the reductions achieved so far are secured for the long term. This work includes transitioning our remaining fleet of diesel vans to fully electric vehicles and replacing the remaining gas boilers in our corporate buildings with either air source heat pumps or district heating connections. Alongside this, our Corporate Landlord Service is putting in place systems to allow us greater visibility of our building and asset performance, impact and cost to inform future decisions. And we will continue efforts to supply our buildings with renewable electricity generated by local sources and to match our heating demand with gas generated from waste⁶.

⁶ <https://democracy.bristol.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=37193>

We are also working on reducing the emissions over which we have influence but do not have direct control - those that come from the goods and services that Bristol City Council buys and the works that we commission, such as building new roads. We are reducing these emissions by applying our [Healthy and Sustainable Procurement Policy](#) and the use of sustainability criteria for our new major capital projects over the value of £5 million. This means more environmental requirements have been made mandatory in our contracts where relevant. We continue to support this work by continually ensuring the way we monitor our corporate emissions is in line with best practice.

Our part in reducing the city's greenhouse gas emissions

We know that the big areas of emissions for the city come from people's individual choices about how they travel and how they heat their buildings. We want to play our part in helping with each of these. We will invest in changes which make it possible for residents and businesses to reduce their emissions.



Walking and cycling improvements in the city centre

Making it easier, greener and safer to travel into and around Bristol

In relation to how people travel, we want to carry on with significant improvements to help make walking, cycling and public transport the easy choice for most journeys for people who do not need to use cars. Our focus is working as part of the [West of England Mayoral Combined Authority](#) to deliver reliable, sustainable and affordable transport options, which connect residents to services, jobs, and each other.

We will make upgrades at several locations to provide one or more features such as pedestrianisation, upgraded pedestrian crossings, segregated cycle routes, new bus lane and bus gates. The locations include Broadmead, Bedminster Bridges Roundabout, Redcliffe Roundabout, the Portway, Concorde Way and the A420/A4018. The details of these actions are set out in [Appendix 1](#). For example, at Redcliffe Roundabout we will provide a continuous segregated cycle route from Temple Meads to Queens Square and we will upgrade the Brunel Mile pedestrian route and provide

bus priority measures. A total of £4.7 million from Clean Air Zone charges has been set aside to fund new bus services.

We will invest up to £3.1 million of government funding, alongside anticipated private investment, to deliver up to 500 electric vehicle charge points during the life of this plan.

We will work as part of the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority to install 150 electric vehicle charge points in lamp-posts to help citizens without off-street parking to charge their cars.

We will make three pilot sites in council car parks where freight can be brought together to be delivered by e-cargo bike for the last part of its journey, reducing emissions and congestion from delivery vehicles. We will create between three and five School Streets per year and we will complete the South Bristol Liveable Neighbourhood project.

We will continue to work as part of the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority and with partners to develop a mass transit system for the city and to introduce more electric buses as well as to explore bus franchising.

We are looking at what's next through creating policies, plans and strategies. We will decide whether to move forward with a Workplace Parking Levy Scheme. If agreed, this would reduce congestion and provide revenue to reinvest in bus and rail services.

We are working on a Transport Movement Plan which will set out a full list of transport infrastructure requirements and related schemes over the next 10 years and give the associated costs, timescales and priority. We will write a Transport Investment Strategy to set out a long-term strategy for how we will manage and reinvest transport revenues back into the transport network.

A new Kerbside Strategy will bring about new policies for how kerbside space can be gradually made to cater for other needs, such as for trees and cycle hangars, crossings and EV charge points.

Buildings, electricity and heat decarbonisation

Looking at how buildings are heated and the bigger picture of the energy system, we will carry on playing our part, recognising that we only have a partial influence on the wider city and system.

We have developed and published the [Bristol Warm Homes plan](#) that sets out the role of Bristol City Council and [Bristol City Leap](#) to accelerate heat decarbonisation in Bristol. We will continue to do those actions assigned to us in the plan in the next five years.

We have also developed strategies for our approach to energy efficiency and heat decarbonisation in our council homes and will follow these approaches to shape our council housing decarbonisation programme. Our [Energy Efficiency Strategy](#) aims to bring all council homes to a good level of energy efficiency so that they are warmer for tenants, cheaper to heat and ready for low carbon heat in the future. This includes a major programme of solid wall insulation, a programme of lower-cost insulation

measures for homes that are just missing the target and taking a data-driven approach to align energy efficiency improvements with the regular maintenance cycle.

Our [Heat Decarbonisation Strategy](#) commits to heating all council homes through electric systems such as heat pumps and low carbon heat networks by 2050. This includes introducing a new programme of heat pump installations that will grow year on year and will focus on driving high quality through performance monitoring and provision of targeted advice to residents.



Bristol Energy Network deliver a draughtproofing workshop at Eastside Community Trust

Bristol Warm Homes Plan

Bristol's Warm Homes Plan sets out the actions we can take alongside Bristol City Leap to decarbonise Bristol's homes. The plan looks at the following themes:

Social Housing - we will make progress towards decarbonising existing Bristol City Council homes by taking a strategic, data-led approach, securing funding to deliver energy efficiency upgrades and low carbon heat programmes, engaging well with our council tenants about how we will improve their homes and continuously learning how to improve our approach through monitoring and evaluation. We will also facilitate joint working amongst other Registered Social Landlords in Bristol to support decarbonisation of their homes.

Private Housing - we will support private homes to decarbonise by enforcing minimum energy efficiency standards in private rented homes, raising awareness of co-benefits, advice services and funding opportunities, and delivering grant funded retrofit schemes that are joined up with social housing retrofit and skills opportunities for local people.

New Build Housing - we will set and enforce planning policy that requires new buildings to be highly efficient, with low carbon heating and maximum on-site generation. We will support developers, including Registered Social Landlords and our house-building company Goram Homes, to meet the policy.

Heat network and energy planning - we will take a whole city and region approach to plan energy projects and will make progress towards building the heat network, including preparing for heat network zoning and engaging citizens throughout the process.

Skills and supply chain - we will support people to gain skills that will be needed to decarbonise homes and get new jobs by creating and pointing to growing demand for insulation and low carbon heat and supporting skills and business initiatives. We will also improve quality assurance processes and train our staff to ensure work is good quality.

Coordination, governance and citizen involvement - we will involve citizens in the approach to decarbonising homes and track city-wide progress.



Council flats in Fishponds with new energy efficient windows and doors, insulated roof and external wall insulation

We continue to work via [Bristol City Leap](#) to progress elements of Bristol's Warm Homes Plan and deliver decarbonisation projects in our council housing, on our estate and across the city. Bristol City Leap plans to invest over £500 million in energy efficiency, heat networks, renewable energy and EV charge points in the city over the next five years.

This total £500 million investment includes a successful bid of £13 million government funding from the Warm Homes: Local Grant to fully fund energy efficiency and renewable measures over three years for private homes in Bristol and adjoining council owned areas. This will be delivered by Bristol City Leap through the [Bright Green Homes scheme](#). In Bristol, around 300 low-income private households will benefit.

Bristol City Leap investment includes further government funding and Bristol City Council contributions for the next three years of our social housing energy efficiency and decarbonisation programme. Following our energy efficiency and heat decarbonisation strategies, we will align with maintenance plans and focus on the Henbury and Brentry, Avonmouth and Lawrence Weston areas with a large programme to insulate

homes and start our phased programme of heat pump installation. Combined with Bright Green Homes, both people in private housing and social housing in these areas can benefit from home upgrades.

Just under half of the total £500 million investment (approximately £227 million) will be invested in the further expansion of Bristol's heat network. Vattenfall will begin construction of a new heat network area in the centre of Bristol which includes the Frome Gateway regeneration area, St Nicolas and Canons Marsh. Vattenfall will also progress the interconnection of the five heat network areas so that the network becomes more efficient and resilient. We will continue to prepare for Heat Network Zoning to support future expansion of the network.

We are working via Bristol City Leap to develop several new large scale schemes on our land to generate renewable energy.

We have secured over £3 million in government grant allocation to install up to 500 EV charge points by 2028 and up to a further 500 over coming years. Working with the Mayoral Combined Authority, around a further 180 charge points will be installed across Bristol, 150

of which will be in lamp-posts for residents without access to off-street parking.

We will continue to work with and promote [Retrofit West](#) to support households to improve their energy efficiency and decarbonise.

We continue to build new low carbon council homes and affordable homes to high environmental standards - such as Modern Methods of Construction, net zero in use (regulated carbon), EPC A and RIBA 2030 criteria - in our new build homes via our work with our house-building company Goram Homes.

We first set out this long-term programme of work in our 2022-2025 action plan and anticipate that this will be ongoing throughout the period of this plan and completed in the period of the following action plan beyond 2028.

For example, Goram Homes will design the planned 1,435 homes and surrounding neighbourhood to be built over the next 10 years at Hengrove Park to be net zero carbon homes, resilient to climate change and incorporating green and blue infrastructure to provide protection from extreme weather.



A workshop for young people in the Green Register's Mobile Retrofit Trailer, funded through Mission Net Zero

We will build nine council homes in Horfield to Passivhaus principles to minimise their future energy use. We will also construct homes at other locations including Brenty and Brunel Ford where heating and hot water will be provided by an air source heat pump. A full list of these actions is provided in the table at [Appendix 1](#). We will continue to promote the [Building Bristol](#) initiative.

We will continue to engage with National Grid Electricity Distribution and the National Energy System Operator to ensure the electricity distribution network in Bristol has capacity to support the electrification of heat and transport and increased renewable generation.

Other actions

Via [Bristol Waste](#) (a company controlled by Bristol City Council which collects the waste and recycling and cleans the streets in Bristol) we will complete the action to deliver planned actions to reduce, reuse and recycle waste including food waste and also to improve recycling services to flats.

We will continue to participate in the EU Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission to learn from other similarly ambitious cities to help us get investment in Bristol's climate action projects. We will complete the Mission Net Zero multi-partner project to develop, amongst other things, regional and community level plans for investment in climate projects and aim to put in place (alongside other organisations) resources to secure private investment (assisted by public investment where required) to make these plans a reality.

We will play our part in continuing to expand the number of [Community Climate and Nature Action plans](#) across the city and beyond and, where we can, help achieve the actions within the plans. We will play our part in

the Mission of the refreshed One City Plan as related to climate action.

We will make the city council's operations and services better prepared for, and able to withstand the impacts of, climate change such as heatwaves and flooding. We will use the [Keep Bristol Cool Framework](#) as our plan for managing heat related risks to the city's population, public services and assets. We will enable residents to be more resilient with information and advice and will develop planning policies which require new developments to contribute to the city's climate resilience. We will work with partners to develop green and blue infrastructure – such as increased tree canopy and restoring waterways – which provides protection from extreme weather.

In 2024, the Outline Business Case for the Bristol Avon Flood Strategy was approved by the council and the Environment Agency. This is an important step in delivering this long-term project, which will protect homes and businesses within central Bristol from the increasing risk of flooding from the River Avon. Today, about 1,200 properties are at risk. This would increase to 3,500

over the next 100 years if no action is taken. Detailed design work will happen in 2026 and 2027. Construction of flood defences is expected to start in 2030 and therefore does not appear in this plan.

We will campaign for funding for infrastructure investments that also help cities adapt to climate change and for strategic investment in sectors that are difficult to decarbonise to accelerate the process of achieving net zero carbon emissions in the city. This includes funding for natural flood defences and urban tree cover and strategic investment to improve the energy efficiency of homes, reduce their carbon emissions and create local skilled jobs. We will support the increase of skilled jobs and community engagement to support a just climate transition.



New train station and cycle path at Ashley Down

Appendix 1 : Table of Climate Emergency Actions December 2025 – November 2028

Ref	Action	Other potential benefit of action	Corporate	City-wide	Funding allocated to action
Reducing the emissions from our own operations					
1	Deliver up to a £1.4 million programme to up to 10 of our buildings with Bristol City Leap to replace ageing fossil fuel based heating systems with low carbon electric alternatives, such as heat pumps and infrared electric radiant panels. These heating upgrades will be complemented by measures designed to enhance energy efficiency and will save an estimated 271 tonnes of carbon each year			✓	✓
2	Gather better information on the buildings and assets we own to better understand the energy use of our buildings and fleet to support targeted improvements in efficiency and decarbonisation		✓		✓
3	Deliver the project to decarbonise Belbrook Children’s Respite Unit, Ridingleaze House, and Symes House buildings through measures such as Air Source Heat Pumps, loft insulation, LED lighting, Solar PV panels and upgrades to their Building Management Systems. This uses funds loaned to the city council as part of the Bristol Climate Action Investment	Lower energy bills; warmer, healthier homes and offices	✓		✓
4	Continue work on the decarbonisation of our vehicles by installing additional charging points and identifying funding for the replacement of fleet vehicles	Reduced air pollution; quieter streets; better physical and mental health	✓		
5	Purchase more renewable green gas to move away from using brown (fossil fuel) gas in council buildings		✓		✓

Ref	Action	Other potential benefit of action	Corporate	City-wide	Funding allocated to action
6	Progress work to set up an energy sleeving pool to allow us to purchase locally produced renewable energy from community generators and extend this 'sleeving arrangement' to all council operated sites	Fund community projects	✓		✓
7	Update our corporate emissions monitoring approach in line with latest best practice and publish more detailed reporting of scopes 1 and 2 emissions to support targeted decarbonisation efforts	Fund community projects	✓		✓
Making it easier, greener and safer to travel into and around Bristol					
8	Progress work to provide continuous bus priority and better walking and cycling links along the A4 Portway			✓	✓
9	Provide improved public transport infrastructure - specifically, work to provide a park and ride to reduce traffic on the M32 by developing a business case			✓	✓
10	Work as part of the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA) and with partners to develop plans for a mass transit system			✓	✓
11	Encourage more pupils to walk, scoot and cycle to school by creating five School Streets in the next year then a further three to four streets per year	Reduced air pollution; better health; increased community cohesion		✓	✓
12	Build a regional Cycling Centre combining a range of cycling services, including cycle training and inclusive cycling			✓	✓
13	Offer support and advice to people and businesses to increase the proportion of journeys taken by foot or by bicycle	Reduced air pollution; quieter streets; better physical and mental health		✓	✓

Ref	Action	Other potential benefit of action	Corporate	City-wide	Funding allocated to action
14	Invest a mix of £3.1 million of government funding plus anticipated private match funding to deliver 300 – 500 electric vehicle charge points	Reduced air pollution; quieter streets		✓	✓
15	Work as part of the MCA to install 187 electric vehicle charge points, 150 of which will be on-street lamp-post chargers			✓	✓
16	Seek funding for decarbonising events spaces through replacement of power supply such as diesel generators			✓	✓
17	Work as part of the MCA and with partners to introduce more electric buses			✓	✓
18	Work as part of the MCA and partners to explore bus franchising to improve service levels which could encourage people to use buses			✓	✓
19	Upgrade Bedminster Bridge roundabout to provide a segregated cycle route, new bus lane and upgraded pedestrian crossings	Reduced air pollution; quieter streets; more equitable access to transport; better physical and mental health		✓	✓
20	Upgrade Redcliffe roundabout to provide a continuous segregated cycle route from Temple Meads to Queens Square; upgrade the Brunel Mile pedestrian route and provide bus priority measures			✓	✓
21	Make a new cycle route opposite the Dovercourt Depot development along Concorde Way			✓	✓
22	Create new bus, walking and cycling facilities along the length of the A420/A4018			✓	✓
23	Pedestrianise Broadmead				✓

Ref	Action	Other potential benefit of action	Corporate	City-wide	Funding allocated to action
24	Co-design and create a Liveable Neighbourhood in South Bristol	Reduced air pollution; better health; facilitation of active travel (making journeys in physically active ways like walking, wheeling or cycling); increased community cohesion		✓	✓
25	Decide whether to move forward with a Workplace Parking Levy Scheme	Reduced air pollution; better physical health		✓	✓
26	Create three trial e-cargo bike micro consolidation sites in council car parks			✓	✓
27	Set out the transport infrastructure requirements (including freight) for the city over the next 3, 5 and 10 years in a Transport Movement Plan	Improved accessibility; better health; increased community cohesion; more space for nature		✓	✓
28	Write a strategy to inform new policy on how kerbside space can be gradually made to cater for other needs and uses beyond parking – for example to expand the availability of cycle hangars, EV charge points, car clubs, green infrastructure and crossing points to meet our strategic objectives around health, the climate and accessibility	Reduced air pollution; quieter streets; better physical and mental health		✓	✓
29	Write a strategy for how the council will manage and reinvest transport revenues back into the transport network in the long term			✓	✓

Ref	Action	Other potential benefit of action	Corporate	City-wide	Funding allocated to action
Warm and energy efficient homes and buildings					
30	Coordinate action to carry out the Bristol Warm Homes plan	Warmer, healthier homes		✓	✓
31	Via Bristol City Leap develop a number of new large scale schemes on our land to generate renewable energy			✓	
32	Use new management systems for major building projects to ensure that carbon emissions are quantified and reduced and that they are designed for climate resilience and to make space for nature	Lower energy bills; space for nature	✓		✓
33	Continue with our programme of work to construct low and zero carbon homes specified in our 2022-2025 action plan. Via our house-building company, Goram Homes, design any new neighbourhoods created by them to be resilient to climate change, incorporating green and blue infrastructure which provide protection from extreme weather. Continue to use high environmental standards - such as Modern Methods of Construction, aiming for EPC A (the most efficient energy rating for a new home) and using RIBA 2030 Climate Challenge criteria - in the design and build of our new-build homes via our work with our house-building company Goram Homes. Net zero carbon design considered at the earliest stages of development with the aim of homes that are net zero carbon in use (regulated carbon)	Lower energy bills; warmer, healthier homes; space for nature		✓	✓

Ref	Action	Other potential benefit of action	Corporate	City-wide	Funding allocated to action
34	Develop the Local Plan and related planning policies to create the requirement for zero carbon housing: await and respond to the outcome	Lower energy bills; warmer, healthier homes		✓	✓
35	Make the homes we own more energy efficient to reach new minimum Energy Performance Certificate standards via an ongoing delivery programme, including a large area-based programme in Henbury, Brentry, Avonmouth and Lawrence Weston (see our Energy Efficiency Strategy for detail)		✓		✓
36	Enforce Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (to Energy Performance Certificate rating E) for rented accommodation		✓		✓
37	Install fully funded insulation, solar panels and heat pumps to at least another 250 private households on low incomes by March 2028 through the Bright Green Homes scheme, delivered by Bristol City Leap			✓	✓
38	Work with Retrofit West to promote their homeowner advice and business support so that residents of Bristol can benefit from help available			✓	✓

Ref	Action	Other potential benefit of action	Corporate	City-wide	Funding allocated to action
39	Via Bristol City Leap, progress work to build a district heat network in the centre of Bristol to supply heating and hot water to buildings in the area	Warmer, healthier homes; reduced air pollution		✓	✓
40	Via Bristol City Leap progress work to build additional heat networks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade historic heat network pipes in Redcliffe to improve operational efficiency Expand the heat networks in operation in Redcliffe, Old Market and Bedminster Expand the building of the Temple heat network, connecting plots in the Bristol Temple Quarter regeneration area Build the Frome heat network area which includes Frome Gateway Regeneration area, St Nicolas and Canons Marsh, the University of Bristol and the Bristol Royal Infirmary Make the interconnection of the heat networks across the city centre 			✓	✓
41	Facilitate Bristol Social Housing Decarbonisation Forum to support and enable decarbonisation in social housing			✓	✓
42	Install solar photovoltaic panels on a number of schools		Lower energy bills		✓
43	Engage with National Grid Electricity Distribution to increase the capacity of the electricity distribution network in Bristol to support the electrification of heat and transport, and increased renewable generation			✓	✓
44	Introduce a new programme of heat pump installations in council homes, starting with installations on a small proportion of our energy efficiency delivery programme so that we can focus on high-quality and highly efficient systems and ensure we can increase deployment over time following best practice and achieving best outcomes for tenants	Lower energy bills; warmer, healthier homes	✓		✓
45	Upskill council and Bristol City Leap staff involved in delivery and commissioning of heat pumps for retrofit and new-build homes to improve their ability to assess quality of design and installation		✓		✓

Ref	Action	Other potential benefit of action	Corporate	City-wide	Funding allocated to action
46	Work with the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero to prepare for upcoming Heat Network Zoning policy and implementation			✓	✓
47	Offer a low carbon heating apprenticeship through OnSite Bristol and support 10 apprentices to complete the course	More businesses in the construction sector with the skills to do retrofit and decarbonisation work		✓	✓
Less waste and more recycling					
48	Seek funding for and then deliver campaigns to encourage reducing, reusing and recycling waste including food waste as part of broader campaign on all kerbside recycling	Lower food bills		✓	
49	Complete planned action to improve recycling services to flats			✓	
50	Take any agreed actions to reduce waste			✓	
51	Take additional actions to reduce waste			✓	
52	Continue to work with partners including Bristol Repair Coalition to support the exploration of ways for waste to be avoided such as a repair/re-use hub			✓	✓

Ref	Action	Other potential benefit of action	Corporate	City-wide	Funding allocated to action
Actions that relate to climate and nature more generally					
53	Monitor and report on the delivery of the One City Climate Strategy with partners and support the One City Environment Board, key city networks and initiatives such as the Climate Leaders Group	More resilient businesses and organisations; strengthened business networks		✓	✓
54	Make wider use of internationally recognised and aligned methods for planning citywide decarbonisation e.g. transition planning tools such as ClimateView, area based carbon accounting and carbon budgeting.		✓	✓	✓
55	Play our part in the One City Plan 2025 iteration to collaborate to create a climate resilient city where everyone is empowered to act on climate and nature recovery	More resilient businesses and organisations; strengthened business networks		✓	✓
56	Engage with businesses and public sector to encourage them to decarbonise and also to take on city-wide climate action projects			✓	✓
57	Continue to provide grant funding to the Bristol Climate and Nature Partnership, Bristol Food Network and Bristol Energy Network	Improved physical and mental health; lower energy bills; more resilient businesses and organisations; healthier homes		✓	✓
58	Give climate change awareness, ecological and sustainability training to Bristol City Council staff including councillors with new courses as needed	More efficient council working	✓		✓

Ref	Action	Other potential benefit of action	Corporate	City-wide	Funding allocated to action
59	Raise the voices of cities on climate change and the Ecological Emergency at a local, national and international level including by endorsing the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty and through our role as Chair of the Core Cities Climate Change Group	Strengthen Bristol's national and international profile		✓	✓
60	Work with partners and communities to support the development and implementation of actions set out in the Community Climate and Nature Action Plans for neighbourhoods and citywide communities.			✓	✓
61	Lead communication and engagement with people in Bristol to enable delivery of the One City Climate Strategy objectives	Improved physical and mental health; reduced air pollution; increased community cohesion; lower food and energy bills; warmer and healthier homes		✓	
62	Continue to drive sustainability through the council's procurement and commissioning supply chain and processes	More sustainable business	✓		✓
63	Continue to participate in the EU Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission to learn from other similarly ambitious cities and benefit from free advice to help us get investment in Bristol's climate action projects		✓		✓
64	Complete the Mission Net Zero multi-partner project including completion of regional and community level plans to encourage investment in climate projects	Lower energy bills; warmer, healthier homes; fund community projects		✓	✓

Ref	Action	Other potential benefit of action	Corporate	City-wide	Funding allocated to action
65	After the end of the Mission Net Zero project in 2026, continue to support the development of ideas emerging from the regional climate investment plan including by working as part of the MCA towards establishing a funded process of support to help develop regional climate action projects so they are able to find private sector investment			✓	
66	Following on from Mission Net Zero, where possible through our work help with the actions and projects within the community level plans to encourage investment in climate projects			✓	
67	Following on from Mission Net Zero, embed green skills into the Bristol WORKS experience of work programme for young people at risk of becoming Not in Employment, Education or Training	Improved access to work for young people		✓	✓
Improve the resilience of Bristol's people and places to the impacts of climate change					
68	Develop a detailed design and Full Business Case for the Avon Flood Strategy, obtain the consents required to progress the scheme and implement and maintain the funding strategy to enable capital delivery and generate revenue for maintaining the scheme over its lifetime	Improved space for nature, increased active travel, enables delivery of homes		✓	✓
69	Support communities to take community-led social action which mitigates or prepares for the changing climate	Increased community resilience		✓	
70	Develop plans for how to operate our key workplaces during heatwaves to help maintain safe and comfortable conditions for our staff	Improved productivity	✓		
71	Evaluate Bristol's Cool Spaces Trial with the support of the IMAGINE Adaptation programme and use the learnings to shape a network of cool spaces for the city	Increased community resilience		✓	

Ref	Action	Other potential benefit of action	Corporate	City-wide	Funding allocated to action
72	Explore how council and community buildings across the city can be comfortable temperatures for people to use all year round, especially to find respite during heatwaves	Increased community resilience	✓	✓	
73	Develop all partnership and council-led spatial frameworks, masterplans and public realm design using the latest urban heat evidence base to provide the foundations for heatwave ready developments	Better placemaking; better physical and mental health; increased community resilience		✓	
74	Include climate risk as part of our asset review process to inform our rationalisation, maintenance and improvement plans for our buildings		✓		
75	Work with health and care services to embed heat health information into care practices and ensure staff are equipped to support vulnerable individuals during extreme heat events	Better health; lower hospital admissions		✓	✓
76	Develop an approach to managing and reducing the overheating risk of homes due to climate change as part of our energy efficiency retrofit projects	Better health		✓	
77	Continue to ensure measures to improve the energy performance of council homes do not increase the risk of them overheating by following the PAS 2035 standard	Better health		✓	✓
78	Update our new home information guide to include guidance for tenants on how to keep their home cool in a heatwave	Better health		✓	✓
79	Update our Tree Planting Design Guide to reflect future climate projections	Nature recovery		✓	

Ref	Action	Other potential benefit of action	Corporate	City-wide	Funding allocated to action
80	Improve our climate risk management processes to ensure the council is better prepared for the impacts of climate change and create a toolkit to help make sure that all the council's policies and strategies take account of the impact that the changing climate will have on them	More efficient council working	✓		✓
81	Deliver the action plan detailed in the Bristol Local Flood Risk Management Strategy	Improved biodiversity; more space for nature; city regeneration; reduced pollution		✓	✓
82	Deliver the Resilient Frome project and capture lessons learned	Improved space for nature		✓	✓
83	Assess climate risk in Business Continuity Plans for tenders where appropriate		✓		
84	Specify a programme of long-term improvements to key events sites to make them more resilient to the changing climate and seek funding for these projects			✓	
85	Seek funding to carry out demonstration home retrofit to reduce overheating risk	Better health		✓	
86	Explore approaches to gathering more data and stories on the impact of climate change on the city			✓	
87	Develop heatwave guidance for heat vulnerable groups and communities who are most at risk from high temperatures and less able to adapt	Better health		✓	

Ref	Action	Other potential benefit of action	Corporate	City-wide	Funding allocated to action
88	Identify existing cool corridors across the city that provide resilient active travel routes during periods of hot weather and explore what additional work is needed to expand this network, especially along key pedestrian and cycle routes	Better health; reduced air pollution		✓	
89	Increase shade provision across the city through increasing tree canopy cover in line with One City tree planting targets considering event spaces and uses where applicable	Improved biodiversity; more space for nature		✓	
90	Use the Keep Bristol Cool mapping tool to assess heat risk and identify priority areas particularly for playgrounds and public open spaces, where the provision of more natural vegetation such as trees, would provide opportunities for cooling improvements	Better health; improved biodiversity; more space for nature		✓	

Appendix 2 : Completed actions from the 2022 Climate Emergency Action Plan

2022 Plan Ref	Action	Completed
4	Make walking and cycling improvements at Park Row, Old Market and Cotham Hill	✓
5	Run the Electric Vehicle Centre of Excellence to provide support for businesses to move their fleet to electric vehicles	✓
9	Improve Bristol city centre through the City Centre Framework, providing segregated walking and cycling routes	✓
10	Co-design a Liveable Neighbourhood in the Church Road area of St George and trial the plans	✓
13	Support the Voi scooter trial led by the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA)	✓
17	Build 'mobility hubs' in partnership with the MCA to offer travel options in one place such as bike hire, bus, e-cargo bikes	✓
18	Launch the City Leap joint venture	✓
22	Consult on new Local Plan policies including policies for new development to be new zero carbon and climate resilient	✓
23	Deliver grant funded programmes installing energy efficiency measures and low carbon heat for low-income homes	✓
26	Increase the use of Modern Methods of Construction to deliver new, sustainable and low carbon homes.	✓
27	Replace the heating system at Blaise Primary school with an air source heat pump	✓
34	Support Ambition Community Energy (ACE) to build and operate a 4MW wind turbine ACE wind turbine	✓
42	Via the EU Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission create new city Climate Action and Climate Investment Plans	✓

2022 Plan Ref	Action	Completed
47	Invest in public lights by replacing existing streetlights with LED lighting and a Central Management System. 29,366 lanterns and nodes, and 4,500 nodes only	✓
51	Deliver the Heat Resilient Bristol (Keep Bristol Cool) project to understand the risks and people's vulnerability to heat	✓
52	Produce the Bristol One City Good Food 2030 Plan and updated website	✓
53	Deliver our part in phase two of the Lottery funded project to produce Community Climate Action Plans	✓
54	Deliver a climate and ecological emergency community grants scheme	✓
56	Display the 'Think Global: Act Bristol' interactive climate change exhibition at the M-Shed plus engagement activities	✓
58	Seek funding to develop innovative finance mechanisms which complement the investment already being made in the city to accelerate decarbonisation, to enable citizens to invest in local climate action and to involve communities in planning climate action	✓
59	Create more green construction jobs and green construction skills training through the 'Building Bristol' initiative	✓

Glossary

We have used some words that are associated with climate change work that may not be understood by everyone. This glossary explains some of those words.

Carbon emissions – This term is widely used informally as an alternative to talking about the greenhouse gas emissions from something. This is because carbon dioxide is the most significant greenhouse gas. There are a number of greenhouse gases and each is different to carbon dioxide (CO₂) in terms of how much they trap heat in the atmosphere. However, these differences can be translated into the equivalent impact for carbon dioxide, called CO₂e in order to enable more meaningful comparison. So ‘carbon emissions’ is often used for simplicity to describe the emissions from all greenhouse gases. In this document CO₂e is used in Figure 1 and Figure 2 on pages 21 and 22.

Carbon neutral – When the greenhouse gas emissions associated with an individual, business, product, or geographical area are reduced as far as possible and any remaining emissions are balanced by

measures that remove or offset an equivalent amount of greenhouse gases. This is sometimes called net zero.

Carbon neutral city – When the carbon emissions caused by a city such as Bristol have either been eliminated or balanced by removals of greenhouse gases.

Climate Emergency Declaration – A formal statement recognising the urgent need to address climate change as an emergency situation. Treating climate change as an emergency.

Climate adaptation – The process of adapting to cope with the impacts of the changing climate (such as more chaotic weather, hotter temperatures or wetter weather and flooding becoming more frequent). This can be for example making changes to homes so they can keep cooler, or adjusting water courses and landscapes to alleviate flooding.

Climate change – Long-term shifts in average weather patterns and systems across the world.

Climate resilience – Ability to withstand and respond to the effects of the changing climate such as more frequent hotter or wetter weather and flooding.

Consumption emissions – *Greenhouse gas emissions* that come from buying goods or services. Regional, national and international travel by Bristol residents can also be included.

Decarbonisation – Reducing the greenhouse gas emissions that come from an activity or product.

Ecological Emergency Declaration – A formal statement recognising the urgent need to address biodiversity and nature loss. Treating this loss as an emergency.

Energy efficiency improvement – Doing something to reduce how much energy is used in a place, product or process, things like replacing traditional lighting with LED lighting and insulating doors and windows to stop as much heat being lost from a building.

Greenhouse gas emissions/greenhouse gases – Releases of gases that cause the Earth to increase in temperature which leads to climate change. These gases cause some of the energy from the Sun that is reflected off the Earth to bounce back towards the Earth’s surface warming it up. This is called the greenhouse effect and therefore the gases that cause the greenhouse effect are called greenhouse gases. These gases include carbon dioxide and methane, among others.

Heat decarbonisation – Reducing the *greenhouse gas emissions* that come from heating buildings (e.g. by switching from fossil-fuelled heat sources such as gas boilers to heat pumps which can use power from renewables).

Heat network – A big network of insulated, underground pipes that distribute heat around a place (such as a city) to use for space heating and hot water.

Heat pump – An alternative to a gas boiler which is three times more efficient and much easier to power from non-fossil fuel energy sources.

Just Transition – Ensuring that no one is left behind as we move to a *carbon neutral city*

and that the associated costs and benefits are not placed unequally on people. It is about making sure that the needs of everyone are considered when making changes so that when changes take place things are not made more difficult for people who are already experiencing difficulties.

Low carbon – When something makes low levels of *greenhouse gas emissions*.

Net zero – See *carbon neutral*.

Offsetting – The action or process of compensating for emissions arising from industrial or other human activity by participating in schemes designed to make equivalent reductions of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. The schemes can be local or international. (Note: Bristol City Council currently has no plans to use offsetting.)

One City Climate Strategy – A strategy developed by Bristol’s One City partners as a framework for action to make Bristol a carbon neutral and climate resilient city.

Scopes of emissions – *Greenhouse gas emissions* can be divided into different categories called scopes depending on how they arise. . See our summary on page 21 for an explanation. Scope 1 emissions are the

emissions from owned or controlled services – for Bristol City Council this includes emissions directly from the council’s vehicle fleet and gas usage, including in heating our buildings. Scope 2 emissions are emissions from the generation of purchased energy – for the council this includes emissions from electricity usage including streetlighting and lighting our buildings. Scope 3 emissions are all the other emissions after scope 2 have been accounted that occur in an entity’s footprint. For the council this includes emissions from sources that we do not own or control, such as goods and services that we buy and the construction and use of buildings we own that are used by somebody else, for example academy schools and council-owned homes

Social housing – Homes that are owned by a council or another social housing provider.

Territorial emissions – *greenhouse gas emissions* that come directly from activities happening within given boundaries including using electricity and gas in homes and businesses and petrol and diesel from traffic on our roads and emissions from waste disposal within those boundaries.

