A One City
economic renewal

Bristol HOPES.
Foreword

We face an enormous challenge. But we face it together. We will seize this once-in-a-generation opportunity to renew and reimagine our economy and society.

We share a common mission in our recovery and renewal: to create a fairer, healthier and sustainable city, one which is people-centred and has a resilient economy that supports diverse, inclusive and equitable communities.

As members of Bristol’s One City Approach, working with a shared plan to 2050 and a collaborative approach to city governance and leadership, we have come together to make absolutely sure that our city will build back better. We will do this not by returning to all of the old ways, but by capitalising on our city’s amazing strengths and tackling its deep-rooted inequalities to create a new economy which includes everyone in our city’s success, builds resilience and tackles the climate and ecological emergencies.

We are drawing together our communities, private sector, academics, voluntary, community and social enterprise sector, public sector and wide-reaching national and international networks of expertise to make a full economic renewal plan for the city we love. It will work hand-in-hand with wider recovery plans, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and with our regional and pan-regional partners to make sure we do the best by all of our people and leave no one behind.

The situation facing us is incredibly serious and we appreciate that there remains an uncertain and difficult path ahead through an unprecedented situation. Navigating this requires collective vision and commitment. Bristol has that by the ton and stands ready for renewal. With shrewd government and private investment, Bristol can be Europe’s exemplar city for economic inclusion and sustainability providing. We must rethink how we challenge the systemic injustices that exist in our city systems and rethink how we can meet the ambitious targets needed to respond to climate change.

We will make the most of all investment by continuing to work as a joined-up, resilient city system that makes sure Bristol is Healthy, Open, Productive, Equal and Sustainable. Bristol HOPES.
The Statement of Intent is...

A recognition of the way we as a city want to rebuild after the Covid-19 crisis.

A description how Bristol's One City Economy Board work will contribute to wider recovery work and interact with existing governance structures

A way for us to communicate our local priorities to regional, national and international stakeholders.

The Statement of Intent is not...

Our full Economic Recovery Plan

A detailed action plan with every action that Bristol City Council or Bristol City Office is going to undertake.

Designed to duplicate or undermine any work occurring at the regional, pan-regional or national level.

A roadmap to return to the same system we had before the Covid-19 crisis.

A replacement for the One City Plan 2050 vision.

* Listed above are the formal Economy Board members. We are grateful to a large range of organisations who also contributed to this document and they will be referenced within the final plan.
Introduction

Bristol, UK, is England’s regional capital for the South West. We’re a city that is known for doing things a little bit differently, with both grit and grace. Known for our enterprise and non-conformity, we have a ‘can-do’ attitude, try new things and have worked hard over decades to grow and maintain a strong economy.

Like many places, Bristol now faces a major threat to its economy as a result of Covid-19. This threat will have far reaching consequence for all parts of our city and further widen the health and economic inequalities in the city. Full economic modelling is underway, but initial indications are troubling. Our economic output in the second quarter of 2020/21 is predicted to contract by around a third. In an April survey by Business West attracting over 1,100 responses, the overwhelming majority of respondents (96%) said that the coronavirus was affecting their businesses. The majority of businesses mentioned negative impacts, with 72% saying they had seen decreased orders and sales; 56% had lost business due to cancelled contracts or orders.

Bristol City Council undertook a similar online survey receiving over 1,200 business responses and found 67% saying they had seen a drop in revenue of at least 50%; 48% of businesses having accessed the coronavirus job retention scheme; 37% of businesses reported they will only be able to operate for between 1-3 months and 10% between 1-4 weeks. A May 2020 Black South West Network (BSWN) report found that 90% of BAME led businesses were experiencing financial loss, with 9 out of 10 having to close. In the same survey 83% of Voluntary and Community organisations and 64% of social enterprises said they were unable to deliver their products or services. Similarly, a survey by Bristol City Council found that the economy has already seen large shocks, particularly in fields such as catering and hospitality, leisure and entertainment and the creative sector, where nearly two-thirds of businesses have reported a drop-in revenue of greater than 80%.
Before the coronavirus pandemic we had a thriving economy with Bristol contributing £14.7bn to the UK economy; the only UK city other than London to make a positive net contribution to the Exchequer. The city is renowned for being innovative, with the fastest growing and most globally significant tech cluster in the UK and the highest business start-up and survival rates among major UK cities. We are globally recognised for excellence in digital media and animation, demonstrating the creativity and craft of the people of Bristol. As well as being at the forefront of the aerospace and advanced engineering sectors, we have the highest cluster density of financial and professional services industries in the UK. Our excellent universities and further education colleges drive innovation and attract talent from all over the world, and graduate retention is over 40% as people don’t want to leave. Bristol is a city that appeals to residents, visitors and investors in equal measures.

These facts, combined with our natural topography, amenities and normally-thriving visitor economy, mean that Bristol is well placed to build back better – but only with meaningful investment and joined-up intentions from partners locally, regionally and nationally.

Bristol has gained a strong international profile for its sustainability and innovation, particularly for its local implementation of the UN SDGs Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We were one of the first cities in the UK to become a Living Wage City and the first UK city to declare ecological and climate emergencies. We were one of the first cities in the world to assess our progress against the UN Sustainable Development Goals – demonstrating our commitment to tackling the intersection between, social, economic and environmental issues. The SDGs will also help us communicate our work internationally with other cities, multilaterals, and investors, and with communities and young people in the city through the Global Goals Centre. Going forward our planned delivery programmes for these objectives will require review to ensure we build on our assets and mitigate the impact of Covid-19 on our ability to deliver our ambitions.

Parts of the city have always been held back, affecting people’s life chances and stifling our full economic potential. Structural inequality is deeply ingrained in society and current events provide a moment of opportunity to spark meaningful structural and behavioural change. Doing this well will help enable all people in Bristol to benefit in future success and to mitigate the worst impacts of the pandemic.
The impact of Bristol’s inequalities has been demonstrated during the Covid-19 crisis as health inequalities have been inextricably tied to economic and educational ones. With 42 areas in the 10% most deprived in the UK and six in the most deprived 1%, the city’s previous success has not reached everyone and has left some communities behind for many years. Only 17.5% children in south Bristol go to higher education - less than half the UK national average - and 19.7% of all Bristol’s children live in low income families. Our housing affordability ratio was 9.11% for average house prices to average earning, the only English core city higher than the 7.91% average. The city’s issues of congestion and air quality continue to impact upon the entire city but with the biggest impact upon those communities already held back through health, education and employment inequalities.

The global health crisis is rapidly deteriorating into a massive economic crisis. 600,000 jobs in the UK were cut between March and May 2020. In March, the Universal Claimant count in Bristol increased by 46% in one month, with especially large increases for young people (81%) and for people over 50 (71%). Whilst the furlough scheme has given many employers breathing space, many experts see this as masking a significant problem ahead. As we move towards Autumn, Britain could be heading back towards the unemployment rates seen in the first half of the 1980s, with all the misery that involves. A University of Essex study predicts that the lockdown could cost us 6.5 million jobs, with many people facing unemployment, lower pay, less hours – very tough times indeed.

Many of the impacts of Covid-19 are unavoidable, and even the strongest parts of our economy will be significantly harmed. What we build back to will likely be incredibly different to anything we have known to date with many more working from home, changes in our connectivity (both digitally and public and active transport), and probable changes in our supply chains and business models. We have the opportunity to shape a future economy that not only delivers growth and jobs but delivers outcomes for wider society as well. It will take more than relying on our traditional strengths and previous plans to form the basis of a thriving long-term future.
An Economic Recovery Plan for Bristol

Before the pandemic Bristol’s City Office had started work on our Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth Strategy, which built on the West of England Local Industrial Strategy but drew out more of the city’s unique needs and culture.

Our One City recovery work does not aim to replace other work occurring within the region and Western Gateway, but instead to complement it and provide a deeper understanding of the Bristol context in the wider regional and national work. We look to build on this work as we develop a One City Economic Recovery Plan, seeking to reduce poverty and inequality, increase the city’s resilience and environmental sustainability, and enhance the economic and social wellbeing of every community. This will create a shared city plan that can help inform regional, pan-regional and national recovery planning by organisations such as the West of England Combined Authority and Western Gateway partnership. Some elements of it will be best delivered in partnership at these wider geographic levels.

We are taking a ‘One City Approach’ to our economic recovery. This means that:

- All activity aligns to Bristol’s 2050 Vision - “Bristol is a fair, healthy and sustainable city, a city of hope and aspiration where everyone can share in its success” and contributes in our efforts to meet the UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Our thinking, strategies, structures and actions will be holistic and integrated across sectors and they will specifically challenge the structural barriers that have previously held back some communities
- Organisations will think outside their own spheres to consider implications at a city-wide level across issues including the economy, health, housing, transport, environment and learning & skills – stakeholders will be invested in their locality and recognise the social value they can provide
The One City Approach is well established within Bristol as a mechanism to bring the city together in a new way, reflecting that cities are systems and that the decisions of one institution impact upon the whole city. Supported by a leadership structure that brings together hundreds of partners from across businesses, voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE), health, statutory services, education, transport, housing, environment and the city’s universities; One City is embedded within Bristol’s fabric as a way of working.

The One City Economic Recovery Plan is being led by the One City Economy Board in partnership with the other boards, building on outputs from engagement with thousands of businesses, voluntary and community organisations, experts, academics and partner organisations through a series of webinars, surveys and interactive workshops. These have already helped us develop a rich picture of our shared values, our challenges and potential solutions, and we are going further to seek inputs from Bristol’s many economic sectors and its diverse communities.

Through this, we know that our One City Economic Recovery Plan must:

- Protect and sustain jobs and create new employment for the city and the region
- Do no harm, be values-driven and take care of our people and our planet
- Mitigate health impacts, both physical and mental
- Put health, sustainability, equality, inclusion and resilience at its heart
- Engage with and involve our communities and stakeholders and capitalise on the expertise within the city
- Contributes meaningfully towards the ambitions within Bristol’s climate and ecological emergency declarations and uses the realisation of the opportunities set out in the One City climate strategy for 2030 to drive mutually reinforcing environmental, economic and social change
- Take a whole systems approach which recognises the need to address our transport and housing needs as critical components of the economy
- Develop innovative and evidence-based approaches to prioritising, designing, planning, developing, financing and delivering – working across sectors and traditional siloes to renew Bristol in a clean and inclusive way
- Work closely with colleagues in trade unions and advocacy groups to tackle issues of work poverty, low wages and poor working conditions.
Underpinning our plan

We must focus our attention on those who are furthest away first so our recovery is truly inclusive using the UN Sustainable Developments Goals as a key framework to do that. It will be underpinned by the principles set out in the British Standard of Resilience to ensure our city systems are integrated, durable, inclusive, adaptive and reflective in order to build city resilience.

We will need to underpin our work with the following programmes and strategies:

One City Climate Strategy

The recovery plan will be informed by and consistent with our One City Climate Strategy and 2030 carbon neutrality goal, helping drive forward a £1bn programme of investment in cleaner, greener energy.

We are committed to telling the truth about the Climate Emergency we face and tackling it in concert with the linked challenge of social justice. Our economic renewal will embed this – and take action to tackle the connected Ecological Emergency - further into the city’s economy building on localised principles of resilient recovery developed by the Bristol Advisory Committee on Climate Change. This will require committed investment in digital and transport infrastructure as well a focus on green skills and jobs, equitable access to green spaces, and prioritising investment in retrofitting and low carbon construction. See page 21 for more details on our climate priorities.

Connectivity

The ability to connect citizens across the city will be critical for our recovery and the city’s digital and transport plans including mass transit and active travel will be essential for building back better.

This crisis provides a unique opportunity to transform our city into a place that embraces walking, cycling, public transport and home agile working. By tackling key transport issues in our recovery planning we can deliver towards short, medium and long term plans around improved inclusivity, air quality, health, carbon neutrality and connectivity for all Bristolians.
We will draw upon our city’s Equality Charter to drive further cultural change and a demonstrable shift in equality and inclusion in democratic, economic and social structures across the city.

This action will take us well beyond the Equality Act 2010 and equality of opportunity to equality of outcomes. Crucially, the plan will address how we best support and develop people to be able to access opportunity, including appropriate and targeted re-training and learning opportunities. A skills-centred approach will be critical ensuring that our recovery has a strong people focus and is not solely based on our physical infrastructure.

This will need investment to help us reach in to our communities and support people who sit outside of the service-net of the Department for Work and Pensions, including young people, the newly unemployed and those who will need reskilling to support the transition towards our carbon neutral aims. We will need to take immediate action to support those disproportionately affected by the crisis while also planning longer term interventions to address systemic inequalities, nurturing economic ownership by cooperatives, communities and stakeholders.

Gender Equality

We will need to ensure that women are part of the renewal and work with the Bristol Women’s Commission and Women in Business with representation from all sectors to further fairness, equality and sustainability in the city. Immediate priorities include:

- The city has pledged its support for affordable childcare – a top priority in the One City Plan 2019. This has to remain a top priority especially given that women have been doubly impacted by austerity and Covid-19 in shouldering the burden of job insecurity, childcare and home-schooling. The Women's Budget Group have highlighted that BAME women and single parents have been especially affected.

- Strategic measures will be needed to address women’s vulnerability in the labour market. The Institute for Fiscal Studies has shown that women are more likely to be working in sectors that have shut down as they make up the majority of those in retail and hospitality. Mothers have been more likely to have lost their jobs or been furloughed as most people in the bottom tenth of earnings distribution are in sectors forced to shut down.
To ensure it achieves its people-centred ambitions, our voluntary, community and social enterprise sector will be an equal partner in the process. Earning £0.5billion each year (plus the same again through GVA and volunteering), this engine room of the city’s social economy will provide expertise and give voice to the amazing volunteers and charity professionals whose value has been highlighted throughout the pandemic. We will also seek to prioritise support for the health and care sector in Bristol, one of the few sectors that are predicted to expand.

The VCSE sector is a place of innovation: it’s the learning lab and future investment pipeline for City Funds, Bristol’s Local Access Partnership and socially-driven systems change. Harnessing this and working alongside the VCSE to help drive the benefits of equality and inclusion into private businesses will be another important part of our recovery.

Pathways to employment

As a city with a relatively young demographic and a long-term vision, the plan will include a focus on transition pathways to employment and Higher Education provision for young people and the future economy of which they are a key part. Many young people have had a serious impact on their education, skills and training during the crisis.

The need to develop the right skills, learning, trades and apprenticeship opportunities will be an important part of recovery, along with investment in upskilling and reskilling people in many and varied ways if we want to support what is being called Bristol’s ‘lost generation’ and deliver our environmental ambitions. It will call for measures such as job placements with inbuilt training opportunities, funded appropriately by HM Government to help unemployed people of all ages and people with complex barriers to employment. Assistance with job subsidy and support, boosting community education and prioritising labour-intensive, skills mapping and matching programmes to maintain the skills pipeline and ready-to-go projects will all play a role. See page 19-20 for more details on our skills priorities.
The SME community in Bristol is strong, and pre-Covid-19 was expected to contribute around £7 billion to the UK economy by 2025. Supporting and nurturing SMEs and strengthening the innovation ecosystem will be fundamental to Bristol’s recovery, future growth and reputation both nationally and internationally and it is vital we continue the strong work being done in partnership through the West of England Growth Hub and with partners like Business West and many others.

The diversity and cross-fertilisation of businesses and sectors is important for innovation and boosting trade and developing export opportunities, driving productivity and prosperity. Supporting these high growth businesses will be a priority for the city’s economy – as will supporting businesses where productivity is low and growth is slow.

This will be vital to achieving the city’s growth potential and rebuilding a balanced and mixed economy with a range of businesses and sectors that tap into the diverse skills base which Bristol’s population provides.

Bristol’s cross-city International Strategy Board can support the recovery plan through focused international activity in Bristol and overseas, bringing opportunities to the city through tourism, education, and global links that citizens have, as well as trade and investment.

For some of the city’s priority markets, ‘the bigger the better’, and the Western Gateway provides a real opportunity to have a significant economic presence overseas in terms of business sectors such as creative and digital and tech but also our cultural offer. As part of the Core Cities network there is an opportunity to promote the strength of UK cities overseas as well.

There are number of significant infrastructure (such as Temple Quarter), skill initiatives (such as Ways2Work) and strategies within the city that will be fundamental to enabling a robust economic recovery that meets our city’s needs and aspirations. The importance of these initiatives cannot be understated and as city we need to engage with regional and national bodies to help ensure these continue as priorities for the city.

Later in this document we have set out some of those initiatives already in development for which momentum must continue to contribute to our economy.

See pages 15-18
Next steps

This document sets our intent for how we as a city want to approach responding to the impacts of Covid-19 on our economy and society. Our intention is to publish in September 2020 the fuller One City Economic Recovery Plan. This will be overseen by the One City Economy Board through a task and finish group formed of members of the board. This membership is to include representatives from private, VCSE, trade union and public sectors.

The group will be supported by the City Council’s economic development team and the City Office with regular engagement with the other One City Boards (Health, Transport, Learning, Environment and Homes), the BACCC (Bristol Advisory Committee on Climate Change) and the SDG Alliance. Regular engagement through city partners, the board and council colleagues will continue with our regional partners WECA (West of England Combined Authority) (including through the Regional Recovery Taskforce) and the Western Gateway to maintain alignment with regional and pan-regional work.

We recognise that for many individuals, families and businesses, interventions are needed urgently and the city won’t wait until our plan is fully formed to take appropriate action, especially to help ease us safely out of lockdown and work with our communities to minimise the risks of local outbreaks.

Our immediate next steps are to:

- Continue to engage meaningfully with different employment sectors to understand their short, medium and long-term needs*
- Continue to engage meaningfully with the different communities in the city to respond to their needs and ensure pathways to employment and education are created that meet the needs of all *
- To support organisations like the council to provide short term interventions within the resources and powers they have at their disposal to help support businesses and communities
- To align the outputs of this engagement with robust data to ensure our interventions are evidence-based and resources are put to the areas of most need and most impact

*look out at www.bristolonecity.com and @BristolOneCity for our upcoming webinar programme
• To continue to support public health interventions and campaigns that help Bristol be a city that is safe to live in, work in and to visit to help rebuild public and business confidence

• To collectively engage with HM Government in support of delivering the right interventions and investment that Bristol needs

We recognise that we are being bold and ambitious. We know that we don’t have all the answers and there is still much that is unknown locally, nationally and globally. We know that some things we can control and some we cannot. There will unfortunately still be more of the loss that we have already experienced from Covid-19 and we must recognise this. What we can do is to work together.

No single institution has all the answers but by working as a collective we can strengthen our individual efforts and our impact in tackling the economic crisis that immediately faces us, the climate crisis that threatens us and the long term crisis of system inequality and deprivation.
What is our ask of city partners?

1. To work with the Economy Board to provide constructive ideas, suggestions and solutions
2. To help us hear as widely as possible the views of communities and businesses by using your own networks to help raise awareness of this work
3. To provide robust data and evidence that you have for your area that could contribute
4. To look at how you can support your community through this crisis

Key city initiatives

Maintaining momentum on a number of the key initiatives already in development in the city will prove imperative for an inclusive and environmentally sustainable economy. The initiatives will be critical for job creation and inward investment.

Below are some of the key examples of this principle, including the vital Temple Quarter regeneration, important skills programmes and more about our climate change priorities.
By far the most significant of our existing initiatives is the regeneration of Temple Quarter. This capital programme will unlock the opportunity to create c 22,000 jobs, a minimum of 10,000 homes and an economic boost of £1.6 billion per annum.

Regenerating Temple Quarter alongside the re-development of Temple Meads station is a once in a generation opportunity which will result in significantly increased passenger numbers and capacity at the largest transport interchange in the West of England; create an innovation zone forged around a new vibrant university enterprise campus, linking leading research and development with major businesses in the region; drive a programme to deliver 22,000 new jobs and an accompanying skills programme; and over 10,000 new homes serving an area of socio-economic deprivation.

Government investment and Bristol’s established credentials for partnership working, innovation and growth will help Temple Quarter unlock economic equality and opportunity in a landscape where Bristol, the region and the UK more widely rebuild following the impacts of Covid-19.

Why this project matters?

This project has important national, regional and local benefits, with the potential to transform people’s lives, provide economic and employment opportunities and connect people to jobs and assets.

Bristol Temple Quarter sits right in the heart of Bristol, with Bristol Temple Meads station - the largest transport interchange in our region - at its core.

It will transform a vast area of Bristol close to significant areas of deprivation into a thriving, new urban quarter at the heart of the city, a place that is welcoming to all – to live, work, learn and enjoy leisure time. It will realise inclusive growth and opportunity for residents and businesses and, by transforming Temple Meads and the area around it into a world class transport hub, make the city better connected, easier to get around and ultimately more successful.
The Western Gateway partnership’s vision is to promote green and inclusive growth across two nations and this project will help realise this ambition. The Temple Meads station upgrade will unlock transport to South Wales and the South West of England, and will improve connectivity between Bristol, Cardiff and London. The R&D (Research & Development) hub within the enterprise campus conceived by the University of Bristol will forge stronger links with other leading universities, such as Cardiff University, ensuring that the wider region focuses on its strengths in digital technology, green growth and engineering.

The GDV (Gross Development Value) of the project as a whole, covering Temple Quarter and St Philip’s Marsh is £5bn. Within the redevelopment of the Temple Quarter, there are multiple interlocking projects that collectively will deliver this economic boost for the city and the region.

The interlocking projects

1. Regeneration of the Temple Quarter

Bristol’s foremost regeneration project, Temple Quarter will be a sustainable, connected, thriving new urban quarter - a place to live, work, learn and visit - that will drive inclusive growth, sustainability and business opportunity across Bristol and the sub-region.

Plans for this major regeneration opportunity are being driven forward between public sector partners, including Bristol City Council, Homes England, Network Rail, University of Bristol and the West of England Combined Authority. By working collaboratively the partners are committed to delivering a regeneration project that is greater than the sum of its parts.

The area is primed to be transformed into a vibrant new central part of the city, generating significant employment and residential opportunities with circa 22,000 jobs, a minimum of 10,000 homes and an economic boost of £1.6 billion per annum.

2. University of Bristol Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus

The University of Bristol Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus will lie at the heart of the regenerated Temple Quarter area and offers a historic opportunity for the university to develop a new relationship with the city, creating new educational and research opportunities with and for its city, its people and organisations.

The ambitions of this new campus includes the potential to become a crucial innovation hub for the city-region and the Western Gateway area and the UK – leading on our city’s strengths in digital, quantum technology, engineering and green growth, partnering with other cities, universities and businesses across the Western Gateway and with key Government organisations such as GCHQ to achieve national as well as local impact.
3. Upgrade of Temple Meads station
Improving connectivity, within the region, to London, to other powerhouse regions and to the world is at the heart of the vision for Temple Meads. The station is critical as the major transport interchange for the entire Western Gateway powerhouse area. The upgrade of the station will double passenger capacity to 22m per year, unlock rail capacity and speed up train times within the Gateway and beyond, helping to raise productivity, unlock housing growth and support our transition to a ‘net zero’ future.

4. Flood resilience infrastructure
Strategic flood resilience infrastructure is required to address key site constraints in St Philips Marsh to enable new jobs and homes to be delivered across this area, with climate resilience built in from the beginning. This will enable a later stage of development.
Learning and Skills

Our recovery planning will benefit from a dedicated employment and skills task and finish group, reporting to both the Economy Board and the Learning City Partnership, involving strategic commissioners and partners like local authority services, DWP (Department for Work & Pensions), trade unions, Bristol’s College and Academies as well as the VCSE sector, further education institutions, other training providers and with the West of England Skills Advisory Panel. This would provide a collaborative forum to agree priorities together and enables a strong voice to advocate for the needs of both Bristol residents and employers.

For the next two years at least, we will also need to deliver, in partnership, the priority actions from the regional Employment and Skills Plan with our surrounding local authorities through WECA. Upfront revenue investment will be needed to build quickly on our existing infrastructure and the things that work. This investment can be structured around four main areas of support that will be needed for our city’s learning and skills programmes:

1. Digital Skills and Inclusion

Lockdown has demonstrated to us the importance of being able to access and use online facilities for all facets of life. In the short term we need investment to address the digital divide through the purchasing and distribution of digital equipment and data so those who currently lack access to online learning and skills can be connected. Ensuring that all individuals have the essential digital skills as well as access to digital infrastructure will be more critical than ever and we can build on our collaboration with education and training providers to enable this for all communities in our city.

In the longer term, the development of new Wi-Fi hotspots across the city, particularly in areas of high deprivation, will provide new connection to help bridge the digital divide. Additionally, the development of local learning hubs will allow more active engagement from communities with learning and skills opportunities.

2. Training and Reskilling

We need to update the Bristol Post-16 and adult skills offer to respond to the employment crisis and to reflect the coming changes in our economy around green skills and jobs. We will need to plan out programmes and processes across our partnerships that reflect these changes and respond to the coming skills demand we see in our city, while setting out our expectations for these programmes through a self-assessment checklist.

Meanwhile we need to be prepared for the potential longer term worst case scenario of a large increase in the number of people not in education, employment or training and increase the number of transition workers in key areas. NEETs and increased transition workers in key areas. This will require us providing flexible supported learning with a blend of face-to-face and online learning opportunities.
3. Unemployment

To ensure we are ready to tackle the expected surge in unemployment we will build on Bristol’s Ways2Work by providing ‘one front door’ for those seeking employment and creating a job matching service for employers, job seekers, agencies and providers. Additionally, investing in the Bristol WORKS programme we will be able to expand experience of work opportunities for priority groups ensuring our recovery and opportunities support our ambition towards inclusion.

This will mean providing specialist support for Care Leavers, Disabled People, BAME communities and those from the most deprived parts of our city. We shall also continue our successful local delivery of the Future Bright Programme which provides support to individuals on low pay as well as those facing the risk of redundancy or loss of earnings. Lastly, by resurrecting the award winning HYPE West programme we will be able to provide subsidised work trials for 19-24 year olds and partner with businesses and organisations across the city to ensure that we are adopting a truly One City Approach in our efforts to tackle unemployment.

4. Apprenticeships

Using a co-ordinated approach to the recruitment of entry and semi-skilled roles we can work with our city partners to kick start apprenticeships in the public sector. We will also require improved co-ordination across capital projects so that we can build a skills pipeline that will support Construction Sector Recovery.

Our Proud to Care programme will help to build a critical skills talent pipeline into the health and care sector, one of the few sectors that are predicted to grow. Lastly, by providing apprenticeship support to SMEs in priority neighbourhoods we will be able to increase uptake in work trials and apprenticeships.

As part of the South Bristol Regeneration Strategy, local education, training and business partners are working together to pilot a place-based approach to SME support and to build a local talent pipeline.
One City Climate Strategy Priorities

The Covid-19 pandemic is having devastating impacts on lives and livelihoods in Bristol. As part of our work to develop an economic recovery plan for the city, we aims to build resilience and tackle the climate emergency.

The One City Climate Strategy offers a framework upon which to build integrated recovery projects, but there is a need to quickly move towards tangible, investable propositions that will support both strategies.

Following close analysis of the One City Climate Strategy by the One City Environmental Sustainability board, some of the key aspects of the strategy that align to our recovery planning will be:

- Identifying and prioritising walking and cycling schemes that can be brought forward quickly
- Outlining and developing retrofitting programmes that encourage green employment
- Identifying heat network schemes to stimulate economic activity
- Engaging businesses around ‘back to work’ proposals ensuring that we do not return to ‘business as usual’
- Developing specific asks around tree planting and green infrastructure to ensure we tackle the ecological emergency that the city faces
- Integrate the restarting of our food and entertainment sector with our ‘Going for Gold’ food sustainability programme
- Ensuring the new developments in the city are built to low carbon standards and factor key issues around resilience. This will include bringing forward our flood defence strategies

We will need to work closely with core cities, regional and national government bodies to develop clear ask around funding and devolved power to take action.
Alongside the examples cited above there are a huge range of programmes that are in development within the city and the region that will be critical to our recovery. Ranging from large infrastructure projects such as the Mass Transit proposals and the Western Harbour development to initiatives such as flood defences, city heat networks, the regional low carbon challenge, retrofit programmes and active travel schemes coupled with focuses on the creative industry and South Bristol. All form a comprehensive programme that will enable our recovery.

This document is a statement of intent and so we have not included details of the above initiatives (and many others) as they will be covered in detail in the full recovery plan but it was felt that we needed to reference that the scale of work is ambitious and varied and it is essential that this continues.

**Contact details:**

Please visit [www.bristolonecity.com](http://www.bristolonecity.com) for more information on One City and the Economy Board and to contact the City Office and One City Economy Board using our [contact form](http://www.bristolonecity.com).