



# Our City, Our Planet

Labour's Transport, Environment  
and Sustainability Manifesto for

## Brighton and Hove

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## OUR CITY, OUR PLANET

Our current generation has to seriously address the issue of global climate change. To fail to confront this emergency would leave our families and children in a perilous position. Our local actions in and around the city can help us to lead the way to becoming a carbon neutral city and enhancing our environment. Our transport system is crucial to achieving carbon neutral status and keeping the city moving.

### **The Labour Minority Council has:**

- Improved air quality in the city and is working to address remaining problem areas.
- Protected and improved our city parks, retaining all 7 prestigious Green Flag awards.
- Maintained our subsidy for all 19 council supported bus routes across the city.
- Worked in partnership with the bus companies to achieve the highest level of bus use in the country outside London.
- Achieved the highest recycling rate in the history of the council.
- Invested millions of pounds in sustainable local transport improvements.
- Introduced the Brighton Bike-Share Scheme, one of the most successful in the UK.
- Rebuilt the iconic seafront Shelter Hall

and completed works to the seafront arches.

- Taken robust enforcement action on litter, graffiti and fly-tipping with a new environmental enforcement service.

### **A Labour Majority Council will:**

- Work with our partners such as Greater Brighton and the Biosphere Board to help the city become carbon neutral by 2030. Accelerate the progress on zero carbon energy and water conservation plans for the Greater Brighton area to achieve greater resilience in the face of climate change.
- Support local energy projects to reduce CO2 emissions by deploying energy efficient technology on council assets, including solar panels. Expand the current capacity of the council to deliver self-financing energy efficiency and renewables projects and conduct an energy efficiency audit of all council buildings.
- Deliver a transport system with a focus on moving people not vehicles, making best use of road space. Continue to improve air quality by facilitating the cleanest and most efficient bus services based on reducing emissions per passenger. Provide sustainable travel options, with investment in walking, cycling and bus travel and measures linked to smart traffic signalling.
- Focus on mixed mode transit policies, with good transport interchanges and better digital integration of travel information and ticket purchasing. Increase bus use still further by supporting multi-operator fare payment technology.

- Develop a fully co-ordinated Local Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan to attract more investment.
- Protect vital bus services, especially those serving outlying areas in the city, and work with bus operators to attract further investment in zero emission bus travel.
- Work with large employers and the business and tourism sectors to deliver an edge of city Park and Ride.
- Create more accessible, good quality, public open space right in the heart of the city, for the benefit of residents and visitors.
- Install hundreds of on-street electric vehicle charging points across the city, and rapid charging hubs for taxis.
- Introduce a citywide food waste collection and composting service following a trial.
- Invest in the biodiversity of our parks and in new children's playground facilities.
- End the residual use of chemical herbicides for weed control on our roads and pavements and work with partners towards stopping their use across the city.
- Encourage more tree planting and 'green arteries' across the city to support biodiversity.
- Collect a greater range of plastics for reprocessing when market conditions improve. Raise recycling rates still further and end the use of single use plastics in the city.
- Install drinking water fountains in the city centre and promote our refill scheme to end reliance on single use bottled water.
- Develop a Citywide Sustainability Framework in partnership with the Biosphere Board.
- Maintain the standards of the city's Blue Flag beaches and work with the Sussex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority on marine conservation work

conserving fish stocks and protecting marine life.

- Oppose fracking as a dangerous, unnecessary and environmentally damaging activity and prevent any fracking on council land. Support other councils in the use of Article 4 Directions to stop the government bypassing local democracy to impose this process.
- Protect more properties from surface water flooding by implementing additional sustainable urban drainage schemes, such as the 'Water Gardens' in Portslade.
- Improve the city's road and pavement network for the benefit of all users.
- Continue to restore the city's iconic seafront.
- Review the policy for parking permits to achieve a more flexible system.

#### **With a Labour Government we could:**

- Have a second Brighton Main Line railway.
- Employ more front line Environmental Services staff.
- Increase investment in clean air transport schemes.
- Benefit from more funding to deliver more ambitious energy projects to help reduce our carbon footprint, including through a reformed planning process that can demand higher carbon reduction measures within new developments.
- Make a greater investment to reduce, reuse, and recycle waste and create a National Recycling Service.
- Employ tougher environmental standards and marine conservation responsibilities.
- Have the freedom to run council owned bus services.