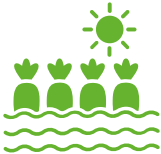
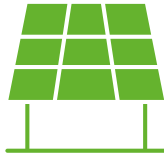


GREENS IN ACTION

WHAT WE'VE DELIVERED SINCE 2020



VOTE GREEN FOR ACTION

Foreword	2
Action on the climate crisis	4
Action for a fairer Brighton & Hove	5
Action for healthy communities	8
Action for a thriving economy	10
Awards list	11

Greens have been running the city since 2020, and the challenges we've faced have been immense. From the loss of 674 people to the Covid-19 pandemic that is still being felt today, to the cost-of-living crisis which has seen foodbank demand mushroom as rents and bills continue to soar. Local councils have become a fifth emergency service- with growing demand for basic services that can no longer keep up with rising need.

Recovery has been tough, compounded by 13 years of Conservative government cuts, as the city's had to make over £200m of savings. But Greens aren't backing away. Taking over the running of a city at a time like this has required resilience, experience, insight and compassion.

We've worked around the clock to rebuild the city's environment and economy; from the Victoria Fountain, Corn Exchange to Madeira Terrace, we are restoring the city's rich heritage. In the east, the new Kemptown boardwalk complements the Black Rock development, while construction on a new park for Hove seafront has begun in the west.

Brighton & Hove has a dazzling array of small businesses which along with high numbers of residents with top qualifications are key to how we bounce back. These important elements will still need sustained government support to recover from the last period. A transformation is underway as we build the neighbourhoods of tomorrow in Portslade and Coldean. We remain the preferred location for film and tv production teams, drawn to our city's passion, culture, creativity and colour.

We've built 497 council homes and we'll build more in the next year, becoming the biggest provider of affordable rented homes across the city. We're investing £3 million in children's playgrounds- the largest investment in a decade. To help renters and homeowners struggling with the cost-of-living crisis we're building warmer homes simultaneously creating jobs, cutting bills and reducing the city's carbon footprint.

Following a year of record-breaking heatwaves and unprecedented floods, our commitment to take the strongest action to prevent climate breakdown is unflinching, whether it's rewilding Waterhall, developing the plan for our Downland, investing in hydrogen to power the future or planting more than 14,000 trees. Our Bus Service Improvement Plan means free bus journeys for accompanied under 19s. We're funding safer pavements, making it easier and safer for more people to choose walking first for local journeys.

We're also keeping a close eye on the look and feel of the city – we've installed mobile CCTV to evidence fly tipping and are tackling graffiti with community protection notices. We've recruited teams to manually tackle weeding, flyposting and stickering. We're bringing in new communal refuse bins, while the refurbishment of public toilets is also underway.

Greens are making the tough decisions to keep our city moving forward, making the best of a bad situation and stretching every penny. As we make this council work for you, we push back against the government with the loudest voices, for the powers and funding we know Brighton & Hove needs and deserves.

United in our commitment to our communities and firmly focused on the important local issues affecting our city. Protecting the most vulnerable, creating jobs, opportunities and apprenticeships; helping to build a cleaner, healthier and greener city fit for the future.

Along with our manifesto, this report demonstrates just some of what we've managed to do in only two years. Imagine what Greens could achieve over the next four. When you vote Green on Thursday 4th May, you vote for action: action on the climate crisis, and for a fairer Brighton and Hove.

Councillor Phélim MacCafferty

Leader, Brighton & Hove City Council



ACTION ON THE CLIMATE CRISIS

- **Work agreed and due to be starting on Valley Gardens**, the final phase of the project creating a new park and travel corridor from the Level to the Palace Pier. The project supports better and safer journeys around the city and helps improve air quality with new trees and lighting, and new public squares.
- **Awarded £29 million for the Bus Service Improvement Plan** as well as additional investment in walking and cycling infrastructure. This includes the improvements to Western Road and cheaper buses for young people.
- **Increased the roll-out of electric vehicle charging points**, becoming one of the top five councils in the country for our charging network.
- **Developed a New Build Housing Sustainability Policy** that sets targets for energy and water use and embodied carbon in new council homes, the only council in the UK to do so.
- **Put additional funding towards Environmental Education** which resulted in the Our City Our World programme, embedding climate learning and action into our schools and school communities.
- Won £1.2 million from central government to **improve cycling on Marine Parade**.
- Awarded £2.3 million in Government funding for **major active travel infrastructure improvements** along Western Road, the A23, A259 and Madeira Drive.
- **Developed the Safer, Better Streets framework**, through which low traffic initiatives and schemes within the city can be introduced.
- **Worked to clean rainwater and reduce flooding in the city**, completing the major Sustainable Drainage project on Carden Avenue and the Wild Park rainscape.

- **Began a multi-year programme to re-wild Waterhall Golf Course**, providing new open space, supporting growth in wildlife populations and regenerating our ancient chalk grassland
- **Developed a City Downland Estate Plan** to manage the council-owned land around the city in line with our climate change commitments (carbon negative, protect biodiversity, develop sustainable local food production, improved public access)

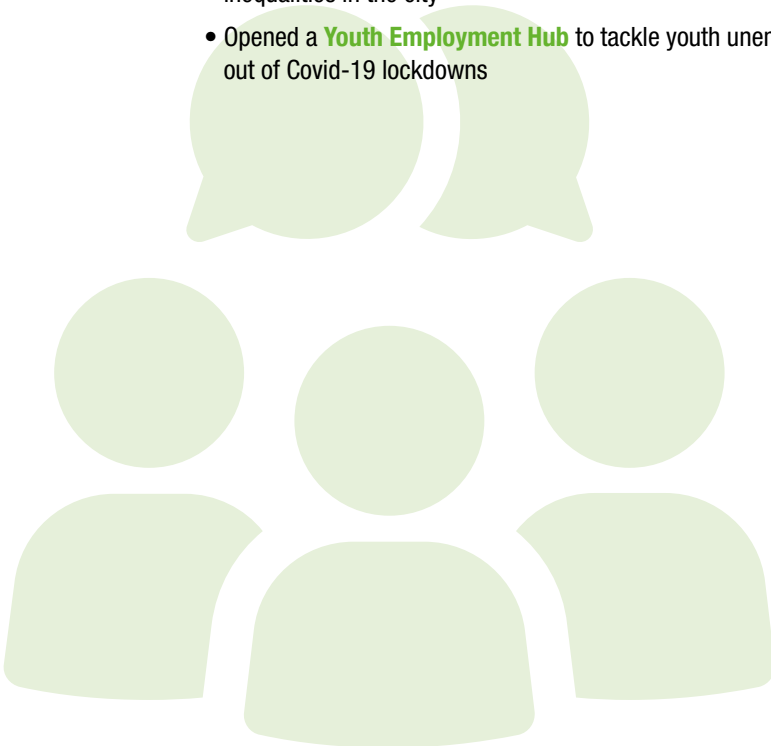


ACTION FOR A FAIRER BRIGHTON & HOVE

- **Halved the number of rough sleepers** (official annual November counts 2019-2022) and more than trebled our 'Housing First' placements which provide wrap-around support to people who have been homeless
- Achieved around **500 additional council homes** (497 by spring 2023, with a further 229 during 2023/24), including the council's first with a ground-source heat pump, thereby reducing the reliance on fossil fuels while making heating more affordable for residents
- Worked with neighbouring councils to **make our council homes warmer and cheaper to heat** while reducing our impact on the environment

- **Supported residents on the lowest incomes to pay their council tax** by making the council tax reduction scheme fairer and more generous
- Restructured the Joint venture with Hyde to deliver 176 new council homes at “living rents”
- Launched a **donation fund to help redistribute support towards the people struggling most with the rising costs of living** and introduced food donation points in council buildings to help support our vital emergency food network
- **Increased the pay** of 3,800 of the lowest paid council staff by abolishing lowest pay bands, to help workers we have direct responsibility for to navigate the crisis
- Closed Kendal court, phased down Windsor Court and replaced private provision by buying a building to provide 38 in-house emergency homeless units
- Set up assistance with the **cost-of-living crisis**, including money advice, help with energy bills, food, wellbeing and warm spaces
- **Started developing a strategy to make the city more accessible** for people with physical, sensory, and learning disabilities, being the first UK council to do so
- **Created a council-wide Anti-Racism Strategy**, putting commitment and funding towards taking action on racism via specific work streams such as in our schools and social work teams
- **Obtained funding to make streets of the city safer** with lighting and CCTV
- Appointed council officers to support the city's disabled and Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic and Refugee communities
- **Appointed a Standing Invitee to two important council committees from the Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic and Refugee** community to committees, so the perspective of those communities is heard
- Signed the **Anti-Slavery Pledge** to help tackle modern slavery and human trafficking
- Improved council procurement rules to help local providers bid to offer services for **survivors of violence against women and girls**
- Supported the introduction of **third-party impartial reporting centres** for hate crime
- **Protected and increased funding agreed for youth services** for 3 years, prioritising the most marginalised groups

- Agreed funding for the redevelopment of **Brighton Youth Centre along with a new youth centre in Knoll Park**
- Supported the provision of a new Youth Hub in Moulsecoomb
- **Opposed academisation** by campaigning alongside communities and groups in the city, meeting with governors to guide them on alternative options and demanding oversight at regular intervals on protecting schools at risk of poor OFSTED
- **Initiated process to bring Seaside Homes back into council ownership** and control to enable lower rents for 499 tenants in temporary homeless accommodation
- **Lobbied the Government to close UASC refugee hotels** and provide better support for Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children in care
- **Launched ground-breaking work** on anti racism in education settings
- **Reviewed the council's trans schools inclusion toolkit** ensuring that trans and non-binary children can be supported in schools
- Created the **Fairer Brighton & Hove Framework** which sets out a plan towards ensuring the council brings together work on tackling wealth inequalities in the city
- Opened a **Youth Employment Hub** to tackle youth unemployment coming out of Covid-19 lockdowns

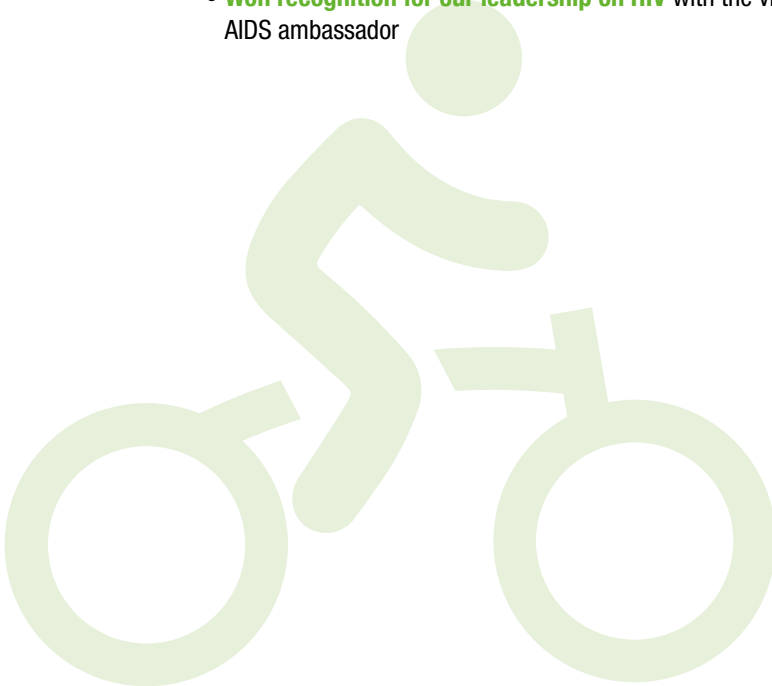




ACTION FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

- **Launched our School Streets programme** – using local traffic orders to restrict traffic movements around schools – to make the walk to school not only safer but also healthier
- **Upgraded 32 playgrounds** across Brighton & Hove
- Adopted an Investment Plan to **improve and develop sports facilities across the city**
- Continued to **support our Healthy lifestyle team** in encouraging people to be more active e.g. through Dance Active and Health walks
- **Introduced the city's first secure cycle storage on our streets**, with a target of 150 hangar installations by the end of 2023, ensuring that people in flats and without space to store cycles have access to store their cycles safely
- Launched **a new, improved BikeShare scheme with electric bikes**, which will encourage more people to remain active for longer
- **Launched a first-class new cycle lane on Madeira Drive**, facilitating a mobility cycling hub also on Madeira Drive, alongside traffic and parking changes
- **Developed the local cycling and walking infrastructure plan** for radically improving walking and cycling routes in the city, from the cycle lane along the A259 to plans for the other cycle lane improvements like north along the A23 to Carden Avenue and on the A259 going East from the Aquarium
- Shortlisted by the government **as one of a three cities to introduce a Mini Holland scheme**, in Poets Corner
- **Supported the development of community gardens in the city such as Upper Bedford St and White St**, as well as numerous community composting schemes

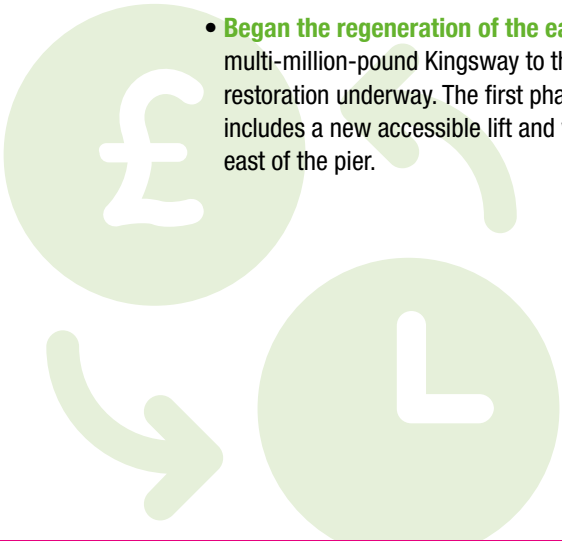
- **Signed the Road Danger Reduction Charter**, pledging to take action to reduce the number of cars on the road, to cut the danger to life and encourage all road users to take responsibility for the effects their transport choices have on others
- **Pushed Southern Water to stop sewage dumping in the city's seawater**, by providing funding for a network sustainable drainage system to reduce run off from rainstorms while improving biodiversity
- Led the city through the height of the Covid pandemic. When we stepped out and **advised our primary schools to close in response to high Covid-19 figures in January 2021**, the move was followed a few days later by a Government U-turn
- Worked with NHS Sussex to **produce a plan for Brighton and Hove that will tackle health inequalities** and our many and increasing complex health needs
- Ensured that Brighton & Hove is one of a few councils to have **secured a voice on the NHS local care board**
- Successfully bid for HIV pilot which will **embed HIV testing across health services**, to end new cases of HIV, normalise testing and fight HIV-related stigma
- **Won recognition for our leadership on HIV** with the visit of the UN AIDS ambassador





ACTION FOR A THRIVING ECONOMY

- Achieved over **860 Living Wage employers** in Brighton and Hove
- **Opened an Adult Education Hub**, which has now helped more than 350 people in the city to improve their lives and job prospects. Most of the courses and workshops at the council-run hub are free to those who are unemployed or on an income less than £17,000.
- **Upgraded infrastructure to promote walking, cycling and green travel** and improved biodiversity along with renovating historic buildings. The enabling works will protect this part of the seafront and open up connection to the Marina.
- Worked with local businesses, FE colleges and universities on the implementation of a “**circular economy**”, meaning reusing, repurposing and recycling materials rather than relying on fossil fuels, to create jobs and prosperity, particularly in food and construction
- **Helped over 1,000 local business people** in the last year with the Business & Intellectual Property Centre, ensuring that our businesses receive the support and advice that they need
- Held the city's first **Green & Circular Economy Jobs Fair**
- Adopted a **Community Wealth Building Action Plan** to keep local money local
- Steered our **City Plan Part 2** through government inspection and voted it through council. This introduces better protections for community assets such as pubs, high streets, shopping parades and parks.
- Worked with the community to **protect Queen's Park heritage** resulting in it no longer being qualified as “at risk” by Historic England

- 
- **Began the regeneration of the eastern and western seafronts**, with the multi-million-pound Kingsway to the Sea, Black Rock and Madeira Terrace restoration underway. The first phase of the Madeira Terrace restoration includes a new accessible lift and will greatly improve access to the beach east of the pier.



AWARDS LIST

- **Shortlisted for the 2023 MJ Achievement Award for Leadership in Responding to the Climate Emergency, for putting our carbon neutral plan into action.**
- **Shortlisted in 2021 for a Eurocities award in the “Farm to fork” category for our Affordable Food Projects.**
- **Has worked with partners on an extensive programme of sustainable food schemes to create a healthy, sustainable and fair food system within the city, becoming the first UK city to win a Gold Sustainable Food Places Award**
- **Won recognition for our leadership on HIV with the visit of the UNAIDS ambassador**

GREENS IN ACTION

WHAT WE'VE DELIVERED SINCE 2020

