ANNUAL REVIEW

2018/19

BRISTOL GREEN CAPITAL PARTNERSHIP

Bristol Green Capital Partnership is a unique network of over 900 member organisations committed to working towards the shared vision of an environmentally sustainable city with a high quality of life for all.

RECOGNISING THE EMERGENCY AND TAKING ACTION

During 2018/19 public awareness of the scale of the climate and ecological emergency we face reached an unprecedented level.

More than ever before, we know that action is urgently needed to overcome these challenges and so the question is how to increase the scale and speed of our response.

Mohammed Saddiq, Chair

We are delighted that Bristol Green Capital Partnership's community of member organisations continues to thrive and grow. With careful thought and collaborative action, this unparalleled moment provides an opportunity to shape the future of Bristol.

By working together, we can accelerate its journey to becoming carbon neutral, tackle ecological challenges, and to inspire others nationally and internationally to do the same in their communities.

We are sharing just a few key achievements from June 2018 to May 2019 and ways to get involved.

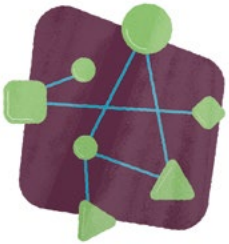
I would like to thank all member organisations for their continued commitment to and engagement with the Partnership, our supporting members, whose backing enables us to strengthen the Partnership and deliver these projects, and to all those who have contributed valuable time or expertise.

We are already building on the successes of 2018-19 and we warmly invite you to get more involved and be an even bigger part of the solution in 2019-20 and beyond.

OUR MISSION

To support Partnership members and promote environmental sustainability throughout Bristol and the West of England, providing a leadership voice and enabling collaboration and collective action across sectors towards our shared vision.

We do this by:



ENABLING

Supporting the Partnership network of over 900 organisations – enabling collaboration, information and skills-sharing, and collective action

AMPLIFYING

Showcasing innovation and best practice, and broadening the reach of environmental sustainability initiatives within and beyond Bristol and the West of England

INFLUENCING

Supporting members to engage with policy-makers and decision-making processes to ensure city, regional and national frameworks support our shared vision

155

NEW MEMBER ORGANISATIONS JOINED THE PARTNERSHIP IN 2018/19

1100+

ATTENDANCES FROM

330

ORGANISATIONS AT PARTNERSHIP GATHERINGS, WORKSHOPS AND FORUMS

3,000+

E-NEWSLETTER READERS

25,000+

WEBSITE VISITORS

790,909 +

SOCIAL TIMELINES REACHED

12

GREEN MINGLES HELPED MEMBERS TO CONNECT AND SHARE IDEAS

12,000+

TWITTER FOLLOWERS

OUR FUTURE

A shared vision for an environmentally sustainable Bristol

Working with experts within the membership, the Partnership published 'Our Future: A Vision for an Environmentally Sustainable Bristol' in January 2019, outlining key actions for each of the themes (food, energy, nature, resources and transport). This offers a pathway for tackling climate change and ecological challenges and achieving a high quality of life for all of Bristol's people by 2050.

It has played an important role in bringing awareness and focus to the scale of action required to address the challenges we face.

This shared vision has and will continue to help individuals, organisations and the city determine their part in moving towards the actions outlined, and its content contributed to the first iteration of the One City Plan, published in January 2019. We've already heard many stories of members using it in their strategic planning and business processes.

"[Reading Our Future] made me prouder to be an (adopted) Bristolian, although I'd optimistically like to think there are other groups pushing similar initiatives elsewhere around the world. Nonetheless, there can't be many as ambitious and comprehensive as this"

Martin Thorn, Ghyston

"By producing Our Future, through their expertise in environmental issues and partnership working, and their commitment to collaboration, the Partnership have greatly supported the development of the One City Plan. Its clear and positive environmental objectives for Bristol are now strongly reflected in the Plan"

Andrea Dell and Ed Rowberry, Co-Heads of City Office

With thanks to Yoke, Wessex Water and GENeco for their generous in-kind contribution

DOWNLOAD OUR FUTURE:

http://bit.ly/bgcpourfuture

FIVE HEADLINE GOALS

BRISTOL'S ENERGY SYSTEM IS ZERO CARBON BY 2050

EVERYONE HAS ACCESS TO HEALTHY, ETHICAL AND SUSTAINABLY PRODUCED FOOD BY 2050

EVERYONE IN BRISTOL HAS ACCESS TO A HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT BY 2050

BRISTOL WILL HAVE A CIRCULAR ECONOMY BY 2050

EVERYONE IN BRISTOL CAN TRAVEL SUSTAINABLY EVERY DAY BY 2050

CARBON NEUTRAL BRISTOL

Collaborating in the face of the climate and ecological emergency

The urgent need to tackle climate change is now widely acknowledged, and the Partnership is committed to helping Bristol reach its Carbon Neutral ambition. In March 2019, we held a Partnership gathering on 'Accelerating progress towards a Carbon Neutral Bristol', which was attended by 190 people from a diverse range of organisations.

We were pleased to welcome the Mayor of Bristol, Marvin Rees among the passionate speakers, and the event was live broadcast by Ujima Radio. This featured a 'Green & Black' radio show panel debate looking at the climate emergency from global perspectives, championing grassroots innovation whilst challenging assumptions made about Bristol's Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities' approach to sustainability.

Focusing on impactful actions available to workplaces, communities and households, participants took part in workshop discussions to identify the steps needed to accelerate progress towards carbon neutrality and committed to taking action themselves.

Our aim is to continue building on this work, encouraging and enabling more organisations across the city to take concrete steps to help Bristol on its Carbon Neutral journey.

"Bringing together global climate science and insight with local knowledge and expertise allowed us to develop realistic solutions that should prove helpful as Bristol moves towards carbon neutrality. The discussion even spurred me into further action, after the event I installed solar panels at home!"

Dr. Jo House, Cabot Institute for the Environment

"I was really pleased to come away with a number of commitments relating to how I will contribute towards achieving a carbon neutral Bristol in my work, home and community life. It was such a good take away for me from the event."

Greg Altria, SLR Consulting

330

PERSONAL COMMITMENTS MADE

87%

OF ATTENDEES FELT INSPIRED OR ENABLED TO TAKE FURTHER ACTION

94%

OF ATTENDEES MADE A USEFUL CONNECTION

With thanks to We The Curious and the Centre for Sustainable Energy for their considerable in-kind support

centre for sustainable energy

we the curious

READ MORE:

http://bit.ly/carbongathering

THE ONE CITY APPROACH

Supporting an innovative model of city governance

As a city, Bristol is responding to unprecedented challenges with a new model of governance and civic involvement. This 'One City' approach recognises that Bristol's social, economic, climate and ecological ambitions are larger than any one organisation can achieve alone. The first One City Plan was published in January 2019, incorporating recommendations from Our Future. The plan describes a vision of "a fair, healthy and sustainable city" by 2050. Six thematic 'One City' boards will drive action on the goals set out in the Plan.

The Mayor invited the Partnership to create and facilitate a new Environmental Sustainability Board and a new Bristol Advisory Committee on Climate Change, ensuring that the environment is a key component of the One City Plan. We appointed an independent panel and ran an open expression of interest process to appoint 15 members from the public, private, voluntary and third sectors in Bristol to the Environmental Sustainability Board.

The Partnership will continue to act as secretariat for the board and committee, and look forward to continuing our support for this innovative model of city governance.

"Bristol Green Capital Partnership was uniquely placed to play a leading role in establishing and facilitating the new 'One City' Environmental Sustainability Board. Bristol has a strong foundation of collaborative working on environmental issues, which will be key to deliver on environmental ambitions in the One City Plan."

Marvin Rees
Mayor of Bristol and Co-chair of One City Environmental Sustainability Board

"Bristol Green Capital Partnership's support establishing and facilitating the Environmental Sustainability Board has been invaluable. We look forward to working together with the Partnership to promote environmental sustainability within the One City Plan, delivering influence and impact across Bristol."

Ann Cousins
Co-chair of One City Environmental Sustainability Board

GOING FOR GOLD

Bristol's bid to be a Gold Sustainable Food City

Bristol Green Capital Partnership is coordinating Bristol's bid to be a Gold Sustainable Food City alongside Bristol Food Network and Bristol City Council. Our food system is having a huge impact on our environment, our health and our communities, and Bristol can lead the way in demonstrating how cities can transform the way we produce, buy and eat food.

'Going for Gold' encourages organisations, food businesses and individuals to consider their relationship with food and take action to contribute to a more sustainable food system and culture in Bristol. A dedicated website offers ideas and resources for changes that can be made across six food issue areas and enables users to log, track and update the changes they make.

We hosted a special Green Mingle to launch the bid, and kicked off a series of Going for Gold Business Breakfasts to inform organisations about the bid and how they can contribute. This engagement work will continue into 2020 to encourage as many organisations as possible to get involved in Bristol's Gold ambition.

"As we face this climate emergency it's essential to act locally and think globally. Going for Gold has helped to give Icon Films a structure that we can work to and reflect on. It's full of inspirational ideas and the networking events give everyone the opportunity to share thoughts and motivate each other."

Tracy Patfield
Operations Manager, Icon Films

"Bristol's Going for Gold bid can establish the city as a national and international leader in sustainable food, and bring benefits to our health, our environment, our resilience and our communities. The Partnership is invaluable in helping reach and engage organisations across the city in Bristol's Gold ambition"

Councillor Asher Craig, Deputy Mayor, Cabinet Member for Communities, Equalities & Public Health

30+

ACTIONS FROM ORGANISATIONS IN FIRST MONTH OF THE CAMPAIGN

40+

ORGANISATIONS ATTENDED FIRST GOING FOR GOLD BUSINESS BREAKFAST

60

GOOD FOOD ACTION IDEAS ON GOING FOR GOLD WEBSITE

With thanks to our Going for Gold partners and sponsors Essential Trading, GENeco and Lovely Drinks

SIGN UP TODAY

Goingforgoldbristol.co.uk
#GoingforGoldBristol

THE SPARK FORUM

Supporting innovation and sparking connection and collaboration

This year saw the launch of the Spark Forum, a new initiative which enables the 900+ members of the Partnership to connect, collaborate and create impact. It was created by members, for members, and is led by volunteers from the membership who give up their time to sit on the Spark Committee.

The first two Spark Forum events in November 2018 and March 2019 featured inspiring keynote speakers and saw Partnership members pitch ideas or projects in need of additional support. Attendees were then able to offer time, skills or expertise to help the projects become a success. There was also plenty of time for networking to ensure everyone went away with at least one useful new connection.

Both events were very well-received by attendees and those pitching projects, and the Spark Forum has already cemented itself as a regular part of the Partnership's calendar.

"The event was brilliant. The balance between structured sessions and more open networking opportunities worked really well. Looking forward to the next event!"

Eve Pyragaite
Screenology

"Pitching our Precious Plastic project at the Spark Forum was a valuable and enjoyable experience. Not only did it help us forge some important local contacts and develop dynamic relationships, the process has also helped to clarify ideas, allowing us to forge ahead with a more coherent and achievable action plan."

Harry Wood
Children's Scrapstore

12

PROJECTS OR IDEAS PITCHED

92%

OF ATTENDEES MADE AT LEAST ONE USEFUL CONNECTION

97%

OF ATTENDEES WOULD RECOMMEND THE EVENT TO OTHERS

With thanks to We The Curious and Burges Salmon for hosting the first two events, and to all the volunteers on the Spark Committee.

GET INVOLVED

We held our third Spark Forum in September 2019 and are now planning the fourth. Sign up as a Partnership member to stay up to date about future Spark Forum events and how to pitch your idea at our next one.

2018/19 HIGHLIGHTS

THE GREEN MINGLE

Held on the first Thursday of every month, with an average of 75 people attending, the Green Mingle welcomes anyone with an interest in environmental sustainability to come together to make new connections, learn about what is happening in the city and feel part of a community.

This year, we were joined by a variety of co-hosts sharing the latest on their work including Bristol Water, the Festival of Nature, Bristol Pound and City Leap.

"The Green Mingle plays such an important role in sustainability in Bristol. Thank you for hosting us."

Ian Brooks
UWE Bristol

GREEN AND BLACK AMBASSADORS PILOT

The Green and Black Ambassador pilot project, developed in partnership with Ujima Radio and the University of Bristol's Cabot Institute in 2017/18, aimed to promote real and constructive interaction between the environmental sustainability community and Bristol's diverse communities.

Since the pilot, Ambassadors Jasmine Ketibuah-Foley and Zakiya Mackenzie have continued to play an active and important role inspiring people across Bristol and beyond. We are now working with project partners to scale up and re-launch the Green and Black Ambassadors project.

"Since the pilot I have continued the conversation about how diversity is unavoidably linked with environmental conservation through my journalism, workshops and panel discussions. I have especially called for the environmental sector to humanise the science behind the issues and speak in a language that people understand."

Jasmine Ketibuah-Foley
Green & Black Ambassador

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

Bristol's SDG Alliance, co-founded by the Partnership, has grown from 45 members to more than 120 since July 2018, when a Bristol Method+ report sharing learnings on applying SDGs at a city level was published. This network was instrumental in the development of the UK's first sub-national SDG progress report known as a 'Voluntary Local Review', which took place alongside the UK's first voluntary national review (in which Bristol was featured).

Download the report at **bristolgreencapital.org/sdgs**

"The Sustainable Development Goals have enabled new partnerships and developed how we think about environmental, economic and social sustainability. Leadership in the city has a renewed focus on these three aspects of sustainability and the city's SDG Alliance is a large factor in why that is happening."

Allan Macleod - Bristol SDG Research and Engagement Associate
Bristol City Council

PARTNERSHIP THEME FORUMS

The Waste and Resources Action Group and the Sustainable Transport Network continue to thrive, with members from a range of organisations collaborating, sharing information, and tackling challenges together. Both groups contributed significantly to Our Future and the One City Plan.

GET INVOLVED

MEMBERSHIP

If you're from a business, public sector body, charity or community group in Bristol, you and your organisation can join this unique network of organisations working together to build a sustainable Bristol with a high quality of life for all.

As a member, you can:

- Get inspired, seek support for your project idea and connect with other members at the Spark Forum
- Share news and ideas with a huge variety of people and organisations through our regular newsletter or membership blog
- Be the first to hear about sustainability news, opportunities and the various events and activities that we hold throughout the year
- Take part in clinics or workshops to gain new skills or share your expertise with other members

bristolgreencapital.org/join

CONTACT US

If you have any questions about membership or want to find out more about any of the Partnership's projects, please contact the team: contact@bristolgreencapital.org

"In order to achieve a wider reach, Bristol Water became a financially supporting member of Bristol Green Capital Partnership in February 2019, given it's closely aligned with our environmental and social purpose. In return, the Partnership provides us with access to an engaged community with a wide range of expertise and support... We would warmly recommend becoming a supporting member of the Partnership!"

Michelle Davies
Bristol Water

WORK WITH US

The Partnership has collaboration at its heart: we regularly partner with our member organisations and others and have a strong track record of delivering impactful projects and events. Get in touch to discuss how we can help you to reach out to and engage the city's vibrant environmental sustainability community.

SUPPORT US

The Partnership is a collaborative effort that has been made possible through the financial and wider support of member organisations.

There are many ways your organisation can contribute to our programme and support this unique network, such as becoming a supporting member, sponsoring a project or event, including the Partnership as a partner in a funding bid, or providing other forms of in-kind support.

Contact the team to discuss opportunities or visit:

BRISTOLGREENCAPITAL.ORG/WORKWITHUS

CONTACT@BRISTOLGREENCAPITAL.ORG

LOOKING FORWARD

Lizzi Testani, Chief Operating Officer

It has been encouraging to see levels of passion and concern for our climate growing in 2018/19, despite continued political turmoil. However, if channels into action are not available, this concern could easily dissipate into eco-anxiety and resignation.

The Partnership and its members have a key role to play in providing a 'port of entry' into a vibrant community of active and solution-focused organisations and individuals for those that wish to become more involved.

Over the next year our small staff team will continue to; organise Spark Forums - providing a platform for new sustainability related projects and ideas that have sprouted in our city to receive support and expertise; host the Green Mingle - offering a chance for those with an interest in sustainability to come together, make connections and stay inspired; continue to provide opportunities via initiatives and Partnership gatherings to bring focus to shared challenges and find resources and collaborative ways to address them.

We will also remain committed to facilitating innovative city governance models and supporting Partnership members to contribute perspectives and expertise to policy processes and decision makers.

The collaboration that the Partnership was founded on is not 'nice to have' but critical. We have the ambition in Bristol to address the climate and ecological challenges we face, and we now have a vision for how we can tackle these, developed in partnership, outlined in Our Future and integrated with the One City Plan.

We look forward to sharing the next year with our growing membership and collaborating to turn our shared vision and intentions into robust action. If you would like to get more involved in the Partnership, please get in touch with us.

SUPPORTING MEMBERS

We would like to thank our supporting members whose support enables the delivery of this work and ensures that the Partnership is available for businesses and organisations of all sizes in Bristol:

With additional thanks to organisations who have provided in kind support:

The following people served as Directors during 2018/19

Ian Barrett, Avon Wildlife Trust (alternate director Amy Coulthard)

Christina Biggs, Friends of Suburban Bristol Railways (former member-elected director)

Joy Carey, Bristol Food Network

James Cleeton, Sustrans (alternate director Jon Usher)

Chris Dunford, We The Curious (current member-elected director)

Jessica Ferrow, Independent Sustainability Consultant (current member-elected director)

Professor Jim Longhurst, University of the West of England, Bristol

Manu Maunganidze, Nature Youth Connection and Education (NYCE)

David Mellor, Business West: The Initiative (alternate director Nina Skubala)

Guy Orpen, University of Bristol (alternate director Martin Parker)

Simon Roberts, Centre for Sustainable Energy

Mohammed Saddiq, GENeco (Chair)

Zoe Sear, Triodos Bank (alternate director Hannah Sturman)

Jane Stephenson, Resource Futures (alternate director Bethan Jones)

Staff team

Ian Townsend, former Chief Executive Officer (June 2016-October 2019)

Vicki Wooley, Operations Manager

Lizzi Testani, Chief Operating Officer (from September 2019) and formerly Operations Manager (maternity cover)

Claire Jacob, Development Manager

Allan MacLeod, Bristol SDG Research and Engagement Associate, (January 2018-August 2019)

Amy Walsh, University of Bristol / Bristol Green Capital Partnership Liaison Officer (Skills Bridge)

Clara Fung, Sustainability and Research Officer (UWE Santander Intern)

WORKING TOGETHER FOR BRISTOL'S FUTURE

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