THE SHEFFIELD CITY REGION –
A CO-OPERATIVE COMMUNITY

DAN JARVIS – SPRING 2018 MANIFESTO
After fifteen years serving in the Army, Dan became the first person since World War Two to leave in order to contest a parliamentary by-election. He was elected as the Labour MP for Barnsley Central in March 2011 and was subsequently awarded an MBE for his service to the Armed Forces.

In Parliament, Dan has sat on the Business Innovation and Skills select committee and has served as the shadow minister for the Department of Culture, Media and Sport, and as shadow minister for Justice and then Foreign Affairs. He has run a number of campaigns including: increasing the National Minimum Wage, reducing Child Poverty and changing the law on organ donation.

Dan is a trustee of the Speaker’s Parliamentary Placement Scheme, serves on the Joint Committee on National Security Strategy and is a member of several All Party Parliamentary Groups.

As someone who has been a member of the Labour Party all their adult life, and has also spent the last 25 years as a public servant, public service has always been at the heart of both Dan’s politics and principles. He’s always believed that we should help those that can’t help themselves, and we can achieve more as a community, than we can as individuals.

Dan also believes that to do that, we need to end the status quo of how public services are delivered, and how decisions are made. And that we should use both devolution and democratic socialist and co-operative principles to offer a new, more radical way of serving the public – one that puts people back at the heart of everything we do.

In his spare time, Dan enjoys visiting theatres and museums, listening to his local choir, reading, running, hill walking, cycling and supporting Barnsley FC. He is a big supporter of Parkrun and has run the last five London marathons to raise money for Cancer Research UK and his local hospice. He lives in South Yorkshire with his wife and three children.
CONTENTS

FOREWORD 4

1 MAKING DEVOLUTION WORK FOR YORKSHIRE 6

2 PROSPERITY FOR ALL 10
DEVELOPING A STRONG ECONOMY 11
GOOD JOBS 12
CELEBRATING OUR CULTURE 13

3 A 21ST CENTURY WORKFORCE 14
OUR WORKFORCE, OUR ECONOMY 15
FROM PRE-SCHOOL TO LEAVING COLLEGE 16

4 FIGHTING POVERTY AND INEQUALITY 18
FIGHTING INEQUALITY 19
FIGHTING POVERTY 20

5 CO-OPERATIVE PUBLIC SERVICES 22
TRANSPORT 23
CO-OPERATIVE COMMUNITIES 25

6 IMPROVING HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT 26
IMPROVING HOUSING 27
PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT 28

CONTACTS 30
South Yorkshire is entering a pivotal period in its development. The challenges posed by austerity, automation and post-Brexit uncertainty are huge. Overcoming them will require all of the innate resilience, talent and ingenuity for which Yorkshire is known. But accompanying these challenges will be a period of real opportunity; where devolution can bring greater investment, independence and control of our infrastructure, economy and environment.

The mayor’s ‘to-do’ list is already lengthy; our transport, broadband, education and training systems are not fit for the challenges of the 21st century, and investment in our housing and the environment is way below what is required. To target these areas, our first mayor must work with all the local authority leaders, business leaders and world class public servants that our region has.

Working together in that way requires honesty and clarity, and that’s why I want everyone in South Yorkshire to understand what my vision for the Sheffield City Region entails, and what, if elected mayor, I will work to achieve.

This manifesto does that, and also shows that if elected I am ready and willing to hit the ground running. Even though – unlike other parts of the country like Greater Manchester and West Midlands – we don’t yet have the powers and budget we need to do so.

A fact that means that this document is currently more of an aspiration than it is a blueprint. And that even if elected, I will only be able to turn it into a ‘plan of action’ if the Mayoralty is fully established and the local leaders and stakeholders work with me. I want people to understand this, because
I do not believe that political leadership should ever be about promising things that you cannot deliver.

Running through this manifesto is my belief that in order for the Sheffield City Region to be truly successful, it needs to work for everyone. And to do that, equality and co-operation must underpin every aspect of the Mayor’s work. So, whilst the pages that follow set out the principles I will work to, and the policies I intend to implement, what emboldens every section is my simple desire to fight for a fairer future.

Doing this will not be easy. It will take leadership and it will take time. It will require someone with the character to forge together the interests of everyone in Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield; the credibility to stand up for our best interests on both the national and international stage; the competence to deliver the investment and services South Yorkshire needs; and the vision to play a leading role in a campaign for a wider Yorkshire devolution deal. Because the election of a mayor in South Yorkshire is not the end of our devolution story, it is the beginning.

Dan Jarvis
Labour Mayoral Candidate for the Sheffield City Region
CHAPTER 1

MAKING DEVOLUTION WORK FOR YORKSHIRE
MAKING DEVOLUTION WORK FOR YORKSHIRE

The issue of devolution goes to the heart of two of the most important strategic questions our country currently faces: how we respond to the causes of Brexit and how we prepare for a post-Brexit Britain. If we are to find the right answer to both these questions, we must consider a systemic reform of power and politics across the whole country. For us here in South Yorkshire, that begins with the election of our first Sheffield City Region Mayor.

Over the past couple of years there has been much debate over the future of devolution in South Yorkshire. Some people believe we should focus on implementing the 2015 deal, some think that we should push for greater mayoral powers, and some think that we should push ahead with the campaign for a wider Yorkshire devolution settlement. My view is clear – we should do all three.

I believe that any new mayorality should begin with the implementation of the 2015 agreement, followed by the immediate negotiation of a stronger and wider deal.

In any negotiation I have with the government I will be arguing both for a stronger deal – equivalent to Greater Manchester, The West Midlands and London – with the type of powers shown on page 8 – and a wider Yorkshire devolution settlement that encompasses as many of Yorkshire’s 20 local authority areas as possible.

Because I don’t believe there is only one route to reaching a fully established and truly empowered Yorkshire wide mayorality; I just know that is where I want to get to, and soon. I say this because I believe that a fully established wider Yorkshire deal – which encompasses the 5.4 million people who live in our region – is the right way to prepare for life after Brexit. Because only by working at a truly regional level, will we be better placed to co-operate and compete with other parts of the country and the world.

The potential benefits of such a deal are huge; the West Yorkshire Combined Authority has
estimated that devolving power to Yorkshire, coupled with an ambitious economic agenda, could mean that within ten years everyone in our region will be £600 a year better off.

But for this figure to become a reality, devolution will have to be about more than just investment in infrastructure. It will have to be about attracting new investment to develop and grow our regional economy; using new planning powers to regenerate our cities and towns; and harnessing our collective clout, energy and influence to strengthen our global brand.

Currently, 18 out of the 20 local authorities across Yorkshire are committed to pursuing a wider Yorkshire deal. But the Conservative government are not. We need a mayor who can persuade people of the benefits of a wider deal, and work to convince the government that they too should get behind a wider Yorkshire deal.

If elected mayor, I will do that.

POWERS I WILL BE ARGUING FOR INCLUDE:

• A housing deal that puts us in charge of what is built, where and who for.

• Greater transport powers, so that our local and regional transport can fully meet our needs and integrate properly between different modes of transport and to different parts of the country beyond our local area.

• A full suite of economic development powers, including some tax raising and planning powers to be able to foster the growth and the communities that we need where we need them.

• A national role in decisions around national infrastructure that impacts our region, like HS2 and HS3.

• A strategic role in health and adult social care.

• A strategic role in pre-16 education and skills.

• A strategic role in policing and other emergency services.
CHAPTER 2

PROSPERITY FOR ALL
DEVELOPING A STRONG ECONOMY

To develop a strong economy, we must build on our strengths, seize new opportunities and respond to challenges like Brexit and under investment in infrastructure. To do this I will:

- Continue to campaign for The Sheffield City Region’s fair share of the proposed Shared Prosperity Fund.
- Work with the universities to protect research funding so that we do not lose out when European funding comes to an end.
- Start a Regional Economic Review and, alongside it, a review of the Local Enterprise Partnership.
- Develop a Regional Industrial Strategy to focus on economic growth and aid our negotiations with the government over a bespoke growth and investment deal.
- Establish a Business and Trade Union Advisory Panel, with a revolving and representative membership, to work closely with the Local Enterprise Partnership and to provide guidance on policies and insight on future challenges.
- Work closely with Government’s Northern Powerhouse team to make sure The Sheffield City Region’s priorities are at the top of their agenda.
- Support trade missions to secure new export opportunities for local businesses as well as beneficial inward investment.
- Champion the region’s visitor economy and work closely with Welcome to Yorkshire to develop a unified tourism offer for South Yorkshire.

Our world-renowned Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre builds on our long history of metalworking expertise and innovation and brings together universities and cutting-edge business. I will work closely with the AMRC board to secure new investment from government and attract new businesses to the centre, and ensure that we will
build on our strengths in healthcare technologies, advanced computing and food engineering. And I will also support key initiatives in each of the city region’s local authority areas:

- In Doncaster I will campaign for city status and the ambitions of the Doncaster Sheffield Airport, DN7 and Urban Centre Masterplan initiatives to drive job creation and new residential development. I will lead work to bring the National Institute of Infrastructure to Doncaster.

- In Barnsley I will work to secure further investment in The Glass Works regeneration scheme to bring more retail and leisure to the town, and campaign for the redevelopment of Junctions 36 and 37 on the M1.

- In Rotherham I will support the regeneration of the town centre, bringing more jobs and retail opportunities to the town.

- In Sheffield I will support the City Council in making the City of Sheffield the regional hub for Creative and Digital Industries and maximising the benefits of being home to two universities with world class research facilities.

- I will champion the Advanced Well-being Research Centre (AWRC) at the Olympic Legacy Park as a hub for global innovation in healthcare, sports science, engineering and psychology, attracting new businesses and jobs to both Rotherham and Sheffield.

- I will work across the region to address the poor quality of our digital infrastructure and digital exclusion.

GOOD JOBS

Securing economic growth is only the first step to ensuring prosperity for all. We have to make sure that we create good quality jobs with decent pay and opportunities for progression. To achieve this, I will work towards:

- Developing a Sheffield City Region Employers’ Charter which sets out basic standards for good business, such as addressing the pay gap between men and women, encouraging flexible working and paying a living wage.

- Championing a living wage for all employees of The Sheffield City Region and all those we contract to deliver projects and services; also minimising the use of agency staff and zero-hours contracts.

- Tasking the Business Advisory Panel with developing an initiative to help ensure that
public and private expenditure goes to those businesses who create local jobs, use local supply chains, pay the living wage, and/or demonstrate co-operative values.

- Identifying support and training for new co-operatives to start up, helping existing co-operatives to grow, supporting employees to play a greater role in ownership and decision-making in their workplaces, protecting assets of community value, and supporting businesses to be more purposeful and values driven.

CELEBRATING OUR CULTURE

I want to put our culture at the heart of our region. From our local authorities to our universities and unions, there is already a great deal of effort going in to preserving and promoting our culture. We must build upon this and work together across the region to highlight our cultural contribution to the UK and beyond.

We have incredible cultural assets. Our artistic, literary and musical heritage is great, and our theatres, galleries and fantastic local and national parks mean that we have much to offer and be proud of.

To showcase this, I plan to enter a Sheffield City Regional bid to be the next UK City of Culture. We can bring together South Yorkshire’s cultural offer to showcase ourselves to the UK and the world.

I will use this bid, to kick start a new programme of work to grow tourism to the region and I will make it a structural part of our economic policy. I will use the Welcome to Yorkshire brand to show the very best South Yorkshire has to offer.

“By existing to provide a service for their members rather than generate profits for external shareholders, co-operative and mutual enterprises are the key to creating an economy that puts people before profit. Co-operative enterprises are more resilient than conventional businesses, and economies with a thriving co-operative sector have a narrower gap between the rich and poor – as seen in communities like Emilia Romagna in Italy where co-operative enterprises generate close to 40% of GDP in the province and which has the lowest socio-economic inequality of any region in Europe. Similarly, Mondragon in Spain, home of one of the world’s largest industrial co-operative societies, has among the lowest inequality in Europe.”

The Co-operative Party – Policy Platform 2017
CHAPTER 3

A 21\textsuperscript{st} CENTURY WORKFORCE
A 21ST CENTURY WORKFORCE

OUR WORKFORCE, OUR ECONOMY
To meet my ambition for our economy we need to invest in our people to ensure we have the workforce to compete. We already have world class training and research, but we need to make sure skills investment represents our ambitions for an inclusive economy, and ensure our people can adapt to new roles as the economy changes. My aims for improving the skills in our workforce include:

• Working with employers, educators and local authorities to take a strategic regional view of our diffuse education and skills system, and developing a workforce skills plan for the region.

• Leading my own review of post-16 education and pathways into work to make sure training and education match the region’s skills gaps.

• Ensuring that the 2015 deal includes restarting the Early Integrated Employment Support programme to help the long term unemployed back into work.

• Making work pay by championing the real living wage across the region.
• Encouraging every employer to have a “post room to board room” ethos – that if you have skills and abilities, they will be nurtured for you to progress should you want to.

• Developing a bursary scheme to assist young people from disadvantaged and underrepresented backgrounds to access post school education and training opportunities.

• Working with the Trade Unions, employers and organisations like TimeWise to develop high quality flexible working that allows people to balance work and non-work commitments like childcare or further training.

• Developing a lifelong learning mark to accredit employers who invest in upskilling their workforce.

• Taking steps to ensure those taking up apprenticeships are representative of the region, for example ensuring women have fair access to sectors that are traditionally male dominated, like tech or manufacturing.

• Exploring options to grow Trade Union representation across the region’s workforce and champion greater staff involvement in the running of companies, charities and public-sector services.

FROM PRE-SCHOOL TO LEAVING COLLEGE

Life chances are set early and I want the region’s parents, nurseries, schools and colleges to take a more integrated approach in helping young people achieve their potential. To support them in doing this I will.

• Work with the whole public sector to develop an Early Years Pledge to commit them to assisting with school readiness for all young people;

• Launch a Child Poverty Task force to make short, medium and long-term recommendations to reduce child poverty in the region.

• Work with the Regional Schools Commissioner and local authorities to develop “clusters” for school improvement, with the support of universities, to share services more effectively.

• Work with schools, colleges and employers to transform careers advice, with equal weight given to academic and vocational routes, with special attention given to new opportunities in technical education.

• Develop a new UCAS-style application system for all apprenticeships in The Sheffield City Region.
• Encourage collaboration between schools and businesses to expand work experience opportunities, especially in the digital and tech sectors.

But education is not simply about preparing our young people for the workplace and therefore I will:

• Support school leaders to develop more holistic approaches to education and the provision of a wide range of extra-curricular activities in every school.

• Support the expansion of the National Citizenship Service within The Sheffield City Region.

• Dedicate a proportion of the Mayor’s Community Fund – financed by the mayoral salary that I have committed not to take – to providing opportunities for children and young people from our most deprived communities to access museums, theatres, sports events and other cultural activities.

• Ensure the economic review looks specifically at inclusion in the work force.

• Work with local authorities and key partners to do more for our most vulnerable learners, especially those with learning difficulties.

It is important that young people – even if they are not yet old enough to vote – have a meaningful say in their future and are able to hold me accountable for the policies that impact them, and help me develop a City Region that can match their hopes and ambitions. To help them do this:

• I will establish a Youth Combined Authority to meet regularly with the mayor. It will be representative of the four local authorities that make up the city region, gender-balanced and will reflect the full diversity of the city region.
CHAPTER 4

FIGHTING POVERTY AND INEQUALITY
I aim to embed equality from day one and take a positive and proactive approach to ensure people live free from poverty and discrimination. To do this I will:

- Appoint a female deputy mayor.
- Aim to make all advisory panels, boards and task forces gender balanced.
- Use the full powers of the Equalities Act 2010 to ensure the authority’s workforce is representative of the region as a whole.
- Publish the gender pay gap of the staff working for the Combined Authority within a month of becoming mayor.
- Establish an Equalities Panel that will advise me on how to prevent structural inequality before it occurs, and how to tackle it where it is already happening.
- Launch a region-wide Mayor’s Equality Challenge to develop innovative approaches to increasing the opportunities presented to disadvantaged and underrepresented groups.
• Support and promote a range of cultural, religious and educational activity to promote equalities and inclusion and celebrate the contribution that our different communities make to our region.

**FIGHTING POVERTY**

The primary way to tackle poverty is to make sure that work pays (see Chapter 2). However, to tackle specific issues I will also:

• Use my Community Energy Fund (explained in Chapter 6) to provide additional support for the elderly to insulate their homes and reduce their energy bills.

• Support our local WASPI women in their campaign against the unfairness in the change to the state pension age.

• Establish a Sheffield City Region Homelessness Network to develop a more co-ordinated response to addressing and eradicating rough sleeping.

• Campaign for more resources and better structural support for homelessness.

• Commit a proportion of my Mayor’s Community Fund to support projects which are placing homeless people in safe and secure accommodation and supporting them in sustaining their tenancies.
CHAPTER 5

CO-OPERATIVE PUBLIC SERVICES
CO-OPERATIVE PUBLIC SERVICES

If we get devolution right, it will offer us a fairer and more democratic future where working people have a greater say in the choices that affect their lives and a greater stake in the services they rely upon.

Co-operative approaches to our services and our economy can help us all have a stake in what's important to us. I believe we should encourage greater use of mutuals, co-operatives and community interest companies – with both workers and users represented on management boards.

To do this, I will put co-operative principles at the heart of our public services and establish a Co-operatives Advisory Panel to advise on the greater use of co-operatives in delivering more efficient and inclusive public services.

TRANSPORT
As part of this plan, and contingent on public need, powers and budgets being agreed, I will:

- Develop a long-term plan for transport infrastructure priorities.
- Consider how to use the new capital budgets and borrowing powers to leverage funding to invest in transport infrastructure.
Use regulatory powers, and eventually franchising, to improve bus services, particularly to poorly served villages and communities.

Introduce special concessionary schemes for young people, students, apprentices and adults helping their children get to school.

Support the establishment of new, not-for-profit and co-operative bus services.

Consult on re-regulating buses and fight to ensure greater staff and passenger involvement in decision-making about our public transport system.

Work to make bus services more reliable and more accessible to disabled people, older people and families with pushchairs.

Work with all transport operators to introduce an integrated ticketing system across all public transport, making travelling around the city-region more convenient and affordable.

Appoint an Active Travel Commissioner to work with local authorities to promote the health benefits of walking and cycling and ensure new planned routes properly integrate with other forms of transport.

Improve safety by working with transport operators to increase staffing presence on public transport in the evenings and increase investment in those places where road safety is a clear problem.

Support Transport for the North to improve rail services east-west across the North of England as well as north-south services to and from London.

Campaign for the region to receive its fair share of transport funding.

Develop policies to tackle air quality and congestion, which will incentivise cleaner types of transport and reduce vehicle use where possible.

Work with the Highways England to reduce pollution affecting the region from the motorways and other trunk routes.

I will also work with local authorities and other stakeholders to campaign for a series of infrastructure investments including:
• Supporting the extension of the Supertram network via the connection into Rotherham, and consider similar schemes elsewhere.

• Reinstating the cancelled electrification of the regional lines and investment in rolling stock.

• The construction of a rail link to the Doncaster Sheffield Airport.

• Improving the capacity and flow of both the M1 and A1 corridors.

• Improving the quality of our road network and reducing the number of pot-holes.

CO-OPERATIVE COMMUNITIES

If we are to truly succeed we need to create a region where people can come together to solve our problems and help each other succeed. To promote a more integrated and co-operative community I will work with:

• The voluntary and community sector in the city region to further unlock the potential of our citizens through volunteering.

• Employers to ensure that the value of volunteering is better recognised in job applications.

• Schools and further education colleges to develop a Sheffield City Region Record of Achievement that will evidence children’s own non-academic success as they transition to adulthood – including recognising not just volunteering or sporting achievement, but also other successes that are frequently discounted or downplayed such as the skills learned by those children with family caring responsibilities.

• The Police and Crime Commissioner and local authorities to resist further cuts to our police budget.

• Our councils to explore whether there are opportunities for community or co-operative ownership of services that otherwise face closure.

• The South Yorkshire Credit Union and co-operative movements to ensure that coverage is expanded so that every resident of the region has access to a credit union if they want it.
CHAPTER 6

IMPROVING HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT
IMPROVING HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

IMPROVING HOUSING

Where we live underpins who we are and what we achieve. Good homes and a healthy environment are fundamental to this and in order to ensure that the people of South Yorkshire have both, I will:

• Carry out an urgent review of the housing needs in The Sheffield City Region and work with local authorities to ensure we have up to date and ambitious local plans.

• Work with local councils to produce a comprehensive South Yorkshire Spatial Strategy which supports the housing needs and economic ambitions of the city region.

• Consider the use of devolution powers, for example Mayoral Development Corporations, to bring strategic focus to areas with specific housing and economic need.

• Support co-operative housing schemes and work with developers to bring ‘Fab-Labs’ and other live-work options into the city region’s housing mix.

• Support local councils to take tough action against private landlords who fail to maintain their properties or who allow anti-social behaviour to take place inside them.
But to put the strategy into practice we need action from government. I will therefore fight for:

- A bespoke Housing Deal with central government that includes our region’s fair share of new Homes England funding, the Home Building Fund and Capacity Fund and a slice of the new Transforming Cities Fund.

- The lifting of the borrowing cap on local authorities wishing to build new homes and demand more control over Right-to-Buy receipts.

- Rent-to-Own schemes to help people under-30 onto the housing ladder.

- The housing element of Universal Credit to be immediately paid directly to registered and approved landlords.

**PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT**

The Sheffield City Region has an outstanding natural heritage and some of the most beautiful landscapes in the whole country. As mayor, I will protect this legacy and also lead our city region into the 21st century as we embrace the local energy revolution and tackle air pollution. To do this, I will:

- Negotiate the first Local Energy Devolution Deal with the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy - the deal will offer to cut carbon emissions through wide-ranging energy efficiency and micro-generation measures in return for The Sheffield City Region’s share of specific energy funds currently controlled by central government.

- Use the proceeds of the deal to create a Mayor’s Community Energy Fund to support energy efficiency measures, community energy and micro-generation schemes, and to invest in new technologies to manage energy consumption.

- Work with Community Energy England, who are based in Sheffield, to boost community energy schemes that can reduce our region’s environmental impact and produce energy surpluses.

- Ensure greater use of community energy is reflected in our approach to housing and spatial planning.
• Introduce an Air Quality Action Plan for the whole city region, combining the efforts of the individual local authorities, and drawing on the expertise of transport providers and other agencies to reduce the numbers of premature deaths and spiralling health costs associated with this issue.

• Work with communities to explore every option to reduce emissions from vehicles and pressure the Highways Agency to tackle poor air quality caused by motorways in the region.

• Take action with our councils and national agencies to improve air quality and protect our environment.

• Fight for increased investment in electric and hydrogen buses to reduce pollution in urban areas and encourage the roll-out of electric vehicle charging points in every neighbourhood of the city region.

• Campaign to protect our valuable green spaces and our cultural heritage as part of a region-wide environmental strategy that makes the case for England’s first Urban National Park.

• Continue to support The Community Forest Trust and The Woodland Trust’s proposal to create a Northern Forest and develop a plan to ensure that 1 million trees are planted in The Sheffield City Region – I will commit a proportion of the Mayoral Community Fund towards this important cause.

• Work with the local authorities to develop a ‘Clean Streets Co-operative’ social enterprise to aggressively target graffiti, fly tipping and local litter.
FIGHTING FOR A FAIRER FUTURE