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Labour’s Manifesto for Sheffield

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FOREWORD

Help us to forge a fairer future for Sheffield

These elections are Sheffield's opportunity to send a clear message to the Conservative Government: that we have had enough of government cuts to vital services, from hospitals to schools. That Austerity has hit our council too hard.

We know that this is a political choice, one that could be reversed tomorrow. £430 million has been taken from the council’s budget since 2010. That has meant deep cuts to services which we did not want to make, and that would not have happened under a Labour government and will be reversed under a new Labour Government.

We are seeing a turbulent time in politics and we are facing emerging challenges as a city. But this manifesto makes a positive statement and reaffirms our commitment to shaping a fairer Sheffield.

Fairness means that no matter where you are born in the city, you will have the best life chances and opportunities. The manifesto shows that we will continue to invest in people in this city where we can, and that this is best way to promote fairness and bridge the inequality gap that has been made so much worse by Tory policies.

We present it in the year which marks a century since the women first won the vote. We’re proud to be leading the City Council as two women, and that half of our candidates in the election will be female.

We hope that wherever you live in Sheffield you will vote for our Labour candidates, who are all committed to putting this manifesto into action. Together, we can forge fairer futures.

Councillor Julie Dore
Leader, Sheffield Labour Group

Councillor Olivia Blake
Deputy Leader, Sheffield Labour Group
INTRODUCTION

Forging Fairer Futures

We believe in Sheffield. This city is one of the greatest places in which to grow up or to grow old, to work or to study, to be with your family and feel part of your community.

Sheffield has a proud industrial heritage and one we believe we can build on to transform the city, with modern industries and opportunities. Jobs for the future are hugely important for the people in our city and making sure we have the right skills and training will be essential in building a fair future.

But because we believe in our city, we believe that those in public service are charged with a mission: to close the gap so our city is no longer divided. We will address the inequalities that exist. We need to forge fairer futures for all our citizens.

Social injustice is not just about wealth. It is about how health and education, life chances and life expectancies, vary so enormously depending on where you live in the city. Average life expectancy drops by 10 years for women between the communities you pass as you ride on the 83 bus. This is simply not fair.

The principle of fairness is that everyone in every part of our city should have the best chance in life, and that the state should work to ensure this. This is what motivates the Labour Party, our elected representatives, our activists and our supporters. It is this principle we need to campaign for, and now more strongly than ever.

Our city took great strides under the last Labour Government. Child and family poverty were reduced and put on a downward track, while council tenants benefited from the Decent Homes programme. Our society became more at ease with itself.

But this progress was stopped then reversed by the Tories – with the support of the Liberal Democrats for five long years. This government-imposed austerity has forced £430 million to be stripped from the Council’s budget since 2010. It is not only that our Council’s budget has been slashed, it has been cut far greater than some Tory. This sets crucial context to our manifesto.

At the same time the effects of the government’s austerity on the people of Sheffield combined with demographic changes, such as people living longer, have meant a huge increase in demand for our services. We are spending a larger proportion of our budget on social care as a result.

The shoots of economic recovery coaxed by Labour after the global economic crisis were quickly choked off, causing a long economic slowdown. The wider public sector in
Sheffield was hacked back, punishing loyal staff and the people who depended on the services. Everybody knows that there is a national social care crisis and the NHS is being starved of funding.

Meanwhile the Tories cynically encouraged a change in our culture, attacking longstanding residents while claiming to ‘tackle migration’; cynically attacking those on social security in the name of ‘paying down the national debt’, and attacking the young whilst claiming that they are encouraging them to ‘look for work’.

People in Sheffield have had enough of this, and enough of the failing policies of Tory governments. In June last year our city voted for change, with the historic achievement of the election of six Labour MPs representing every part of the city.

We seek this year to renew our mandate from the people of Sheffield to govern the Council. There is no mistaking that, in the face of Tory austerity policies, running the Council is hard. Because of the cuts to the city’s budget we have been forced to drastically reduce services we and the people of Sheffield believe should be there.

Yet we remain ambitious for the city, and we will take every opportunity we can to put our vision into action. This manifesto sets out how we can achieve fairer futures for all residents and all parts of the city. We will listen to all generations and to everyone who works in our valleys or lives on our hills.

The future is a stronger economy, with skilled jobs and higher pay. The future is a beautiful environment, that we can pass on to our children's children. The future is a city centre that belongs to the people, with a vibrant variety of activities for everyone to take part in. The future is a system of health and education that ensures wellbeing and flourishing for all.

This Manifesto presents seven priorities and the policies to deliver:

1) A Council for the Many
2) Health and Wellbeing for All
3) Creating Fair Futures
4) Communities & Neighbourhoods
5) Homes for All
6) Investing in a Vibrant Economy
7) Our Global Future

With your support, we can achieve these aims and forge fairer futures.
CHAPTER 1

A Council for the Many

DEMOCRACY AND PARTICIPATION

This manifesto restates our commitment to democracy and participation. Our Party seeks to represent communities across every part of this city, and to govern in the interest of all. Austerity has forced terribly difficult decisions upon the Council. But we are committed to fighting nevertheless for the best deal for the people we represent. We will:

a) continue our campaign for the devolution of powers and resources, so Sheffield people can have our say over our future.
b) seek to introduce live webcasting for council meetings using existing resources.
c) continue to innovate with public engagement events, like Cabinet in the Community
d) Review the Council’s Local Area Partnerships structure to ensure it enables the best engagement.
e) work with children, young people and families to ensure they have a voice on our policies and services.

BUDGETING UNDER AUSTERITY

The Tories, and during 2010-15 the Liberal Democrats, have slashed local government funding more deeply than any other part of the public sector. Sheffield has been particularly badly hit, because of their unfair changes to the local government funding formula.

At the same time, increasing pressure on the Council's services due to cuts elsewhere in the public and voluntary sectors, and the deepening social impact of austerity, have stretched Sheffield Council to the limit. We will:

a) continue to campaign for an end to austerity and for fair funding for local government both as a Council and through the Local Government Association and Core Cities network.
b) continue to expand and improve citizens’ participation in the budget-setting process. The budget for 2018/19 had record engagement through our online survey.

**PUTTING VALUES INTO ACTION**

With our council’s budget slashed by the Tories, it is more important than ever that we spend the remaining money in a way that puts our values into action. We will:

a) continue to pay the Foundation Living Wage and encourage others to.

b) bring council services back inhouse whenever viable – as we have done with housing repairs, human resources and recently the 101 telephone service

c) guarantee that future commissioning by the Council only selects partners who adhere to our values through the new Ethical Procurement Strategy.

d) sign up to the Co-operative Party’s pledge to guarantee Modern Slavery is cut from the supply chain.

e) seek to spend more of the Council’s money with local businesses, smaller businesses, and co-operatives and social enterprises.

f) consider applying for license to buy the Council’s water directly, saving money to reinvest in services.

g) work to reduce the Council’s use of plastics.

h) sign up to the Citizens’ Advice Bureau’s Fair Debt Collection policy.
CHAPTER 2

Health & Wellbeing for All

The health and wellbeing of Sheffield citizens of all ages are vital priorities for us because everyone has the right to health and a good quality of life.

This is crucial for local businesses and public services too because they all rely on a healthy workforce. This is why we will work closely with all partners in the City to achieve the goal of the Sheffield Healthy Lifespan – the idea that everyone is able to live in good health, from the cradle to the grave.

All our City Council departments and all our partners in business and the voluntary sector must contribute to some of the urgent health challenges we face. We are a ‘public health organisation’ and will be led by evidence on what improves public health.

SOCIAL CARE

We live in a time of growing social care needs for children, young people and their families, as well as adults, especially in old age. The increasing need for our services is driven by a growing population, but also worsening economic circumstances for many families. We have seen child poverty and poverty in low-wage working families rising. Demand for children and family services has increased, particularly over the last eight years, and there are growing numbers of teenagers with more complex needs who need intensive support.

Despite these growing pressures the Tories continue to cut budgets, creating a funding crisis. A future Labour Government will invest an extra £8 billion to tackle the crisis in social care, in addition to over £30 billion investment in the NHS over the next Parliament.

The government’s own assessment of the needs of all children and young people with complex needs in our city found that we need £60.3m. Yet the government have only allocated the Council £53.7m, a gap of millions at a time when numbers of pupils with complex needs is rising.

We will:

a) increase investment in the quality of home care and supported living.

b) support staff to ensure they are adequately skilled and supported to fulfil their demanding roles. The Council’s workforce is hardworking and dedicated, in an extremely challenging area of work, and we will continue to support them.

c) implement the Unison Ethical Care Charter, to increase wages in the care sector above the national minimum wage and continue to help care providers to replace zero hours contracts with guaranteed hours.
d) improve the way the Council listens when people get in touch, including by reorganizing social workers into local teams, the ‘First Contact’ scheme.

e) invest in recruitment and retention strategies, including mentoring, business support, and caseload management to attract experienced social workers and support existing ones.

f) review the short break arrangements for adults of working age in Sheffield, to provide more flexible short break arrangements, such as Sharing Lives and Independent Service Funds.

g) tackle the causes and symptoms of poverty amongst children, young people and families wherever we can.

INDEPENDENT LIVING

We will:

a) work with the Voluntary Sector on a model of ‘social prescribing’ that helps people access services in their community.

b) provide luncheon clubs across the city to promote increased access to a high-quality service.

c) support children and young people with Special Educational Needs by establishing a 0-25 service.

d) improve the transition of disabled young people into adulthood. Investment in a specialist team ensuring that young people with Special Educational Needs (SEND) will get better support to enable them to achieve their full potential.

e) provide a wider choice and more flexible short break arrangements for adults of working age with a Learning Disability through initiatives such as Sharing Lives and Independent Service Funds.

OUR NHS

Under the Tories, the NHS and social care have been starved of much needed cash. We will:

a) work to improve hospital discharge and support, so older people can return home more quickly, before their well-being deteriorates. This requires a more joined-up approach with the NHS, better communication with service users and families, as well as more flexible community-based services.

b) continue to work with health colleagues to bring in external funding and develop and deliver emotional wellbeing and mental health support for young people across Sheffield schools and in our communities.

c) continue to work in partnership with the NHS, but not formally sign the Council up to Tory-led NHS reforms.

AIR POLLUTION

500 residents of Sheffield die each year because of air pollution, a problem which also causes respiratory problems in thousands of our children and older people. We are determined to cut this pollution. We will:

a) continue to recognise air pollution as a public health crisis and reduce it to safer levels.
b) deliver our Clean Air Strategy, including undertaking a feasibility study to assess the impact of charging buses, van, lorries and taxis.
c) investigate and instigate a programme of free or cheaper public transport on days when air pollution is particularly bad.
d) study the economic and pollution impact of a Workplace Parking Levy and consult residents and businesses on the best way to implement this. We would use any proceeds from this to fund additional transport schemes, such as an extension of the tram network.
e) enforce our recently enacted Anti-idling bye-laws, cleaning up the air around schools and hospitals.
f) review parking policy and incentives to make using a less polluting vehicle more attractive.
g) review the taxi licensing regime and initiate a taxi-leasing scheme to enable the transition to a cleaner fleet.
h) continue to campaign for the electrification of the Midland Mainline railway, to significantly improve air quality at the station.

FOOD & NUTRITION

This year the Council published a new food strategy focussing on food poverty and nutrition, such as encouraging low sugar diets. We will:
a) implement the new food strategy.
b) work towards being the First Breastfeeding Friendly Local Authority in the country.
c) support public health campaigns such as the GULP (Give Up Loving Pop) campaign.

PROTECTING CONSUMERS

It is important to protect vulnerable residents from scammers. We will:
a) continue the ‘Not Born Yesterday’ (NBY) campaign against rogue traders including training for Post Office staff, care workers and bank staff. We will provide additional awareness training for key groups, seek further prosecutions, and form stronger links with other agencies.
b) target illegal tobacco sales and counterfeit tobacco products.
c) make use of the proceeds from prosecutions to offer extra support for older and vulnerable residents.
CHAPTER 3

Creating Fair Futures

We are committed to a city that offers fair opportunities to all. This means investing in children from an early age. It means continuing to work hard to close the big attainment gaps across Sheffield, by raising GCSE passes as a first priority, while maintaining high standards for everyone.

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Schools also have a crucial role in determining life chances. We will:

a) provide school places for every pupil across the city, with great local schools, education, training, apprenticeships, skills and employment opportunities. We have also announced plans to build two new secondary schools.

b) provide services for Children & Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and their families including working to prevent unnecessary exclusions.

c) work with schools to support young people's emotional wellbeing and mental health. There has been a significant increase in mental health issues in recent years, but the Council has secured extra funding.

d) campaign for a fair national funding formula for schools, which unlike the government's plans would not take money away from primaries to pay for secondaries.

SKILLS & APPRENTICESHIPS

We want to reinvigorate the city's great tradition of further education to create exciting alternatives for young people not wishing to enter higher education. We will:

a) continue to invest in our awarding-winning apprenticeship scheme.

b) provide apprenticeships to young people unable to access national programmes.

c) Bring business into the heart of the skills system, so we can develop the skills and training they need.

UNIVERSITIES

We are proud of our two world-class universities and will work with them to ensure fair opportunities for all and the full integration of students into the life of the city. We want graduates to have opportunities to stay on and continue to contribute. We will:

a) extend the successful RISE graduate programme, with a focus on SMEs in the digital and advanced manufacturing sector.

CARE LEAVERS

It is important that children who grow up in care have the best life chances. We will work to ensure care leavers receive the best support to live independently, including a bespoke deal on Council Tax Support, designed through consultation with care leavers.
Sheffield has a reputation as an open, tolerant, diverse and proud city. We can be proud of our reputation as a city of sanctuary. Our city has a vibrant and active voluntary and community sector, and we intend the Council to work with this sector wherever possible to maximise the quality of life for all Sheffield citizens.

In the face of severe cuts to government funding we have innovated. We have partnered community volunteers in the provision of library services. We will encourage more neighbourhood networks.

INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

All our communities should be inclusive for everyone. We will:

a) support the development of Dementia Friendly Communities across the city by strengthening our approach to prevention and building the capacity of our communities and organisations to support people affected by dementia.

b) provide additional investment to support people affected by dementia and their carers so that they can get support closer to home. This will involve working with the Voluntary sector to develop additional day support activities.

c) invest in and work with our vibrant Voluntary and Community Sector through direct grants, ward pots and mainstream budgets to provide strong foundations across the city.

d) work with luncheon clubs across the city to promote increased access to a high-quality service.

INCREASING PARTICIPATION

Everyone in the city should be able to enjoy and access our culture, sport and leisure. We will:

a) work to complete the ambitious Tinsley Art Project and provide a cultural landmark for the community.

b) increase cultural participation and experiences for young people by working with Create Sheffield, which is part of Learn Sheffield, and the city's cultural sector.

c) set social outcomes for leisure sport contracts.

d) refurbish tennis courts and cricket pitches across the city by forming partnerships with the national sports associations.

e) continue to support the Olympic Legacy Health and Wellbeing Park.
**PARKS, COUNTRYSIDE & TREES**

We want future generations to enjoy attractive neighbourhoods with beautiful parks, countryside and woodland. We will:

a) publish a strategy for the city's trees in parks, countryside and on the highways.
b) plant 300 memorial trees in parks across 15 parks across the city to commemorate the close of the First World War and provide a lasting memorial, as supported by the Royal British Legion.
c) build on our £1.5 million investment so that parks help resolve public health challenges.
d) build a new park for the East of Sheffield, as part of the Olympic Legacy Park.

**LITTER & FLYTIPPING**

Residents rightly complain about litter and fly-tipping when it occurs in their neighbourhoods. We will:

a) act on fly-tipping by ensuring every report is investigated within 48 hours.
b) provide stronger surveillance of fly-tipping hot spots.
c) take legal action against fly-tipping perpetrators wherever possible.
d) introduce more enforcement officers to tackle litter and dog-fouling.
e) promote the ‘Clean Sheffield’ project to support local community groups to take more pride in their neighbourhoods.
f) support projects to make neighbourhoods look more attractive, like bulb planting.

**HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT**

We will:

a) complete the Streets Ahead project and ensure the highways are maintained for the lifetime of the project.
b) continue our programme of investment in road safety, introducing 20mph zones in the remaining areas of the city where they are needed.
c) move away from a ‘Car First’ approach to promote active travel with more walking routes, cycle lanes and bus lanes. Segregated cycle lanes will be the first preference for new schemes.
d) double the number of bikes available for hire over the next year, having introduced the largest dockless bike-share scheme in the UK.
e) lobby Stagecoach Supertram to allow bikes to be taken on trams.
f) install more electric vehicle charging points.
g) lobby the Government to ensure its decisions concerning High Speed 2, Northern Powerhouse Rail, the Midland Mainline franchise and the Hope Valley line are right for Sheffield.
CHAPTER 5

Homes for All

We believe that everyone should live in a safe, secure and warm home. We take the councils rights and responsibilities seriously as a provider, planning authority, and regulator. We need new homes of all tenures in the city to resolve the nationwide housing crisis.

NEW & AFFORDABLE HOMES

We will:

a) ensure 2,500 new homes are built next year, using brownfield sites throughout the city.
b) ensure hundreds of these are affordable homes.
c) continue our innovative self-build programme.
d) require student housing developments to contribute to affordable housing.
e) require developers to publish viability assessments for affordable housing.
f) deliver a Local Plan that will provide a framework for good homes, facilities and green spaces for the future.

COUNCIL HOUSING

We want to restore the role of council housing. That is why we brought council housing back under direct management, believe in building new council homes, and believe in supporting tenants and maintaining homes to a great standard. We will:

a) provide 1,500 new council houses in the next five years, including from our extensive council house building programme.
b) make sure all council homes are fire-safe, especially with high-rise tower blocks.
c) Continue to improve the housing repairs service, having brought it in-house.
d) work with and support the Tenants & Residents’ movement.

PRIVATE-RENTED HOMES

We will:

a) publish a charter of tenants’ rights and responsibilities.
b) work with tenants and landlords to make sure homes are warm and safe.
c) bring the full force of the law down on landlords whose properties are unsafe, including prosecution.
d) seek to limit letting boards in areas of high density.
e) seek to establish Selective Licensing Schemes wherever the need can be proven under strict statutory rules.

HOMELESSNESS

We want to see an end to rough sleeping in Sheffield. We will:

a) proactively prevent homelessness, by working with people earlier in their lives to resolve housing problems and provide options.
b) strengthen partnerships with other agencies to help vulnerable people, who are at greater risk of homelessness.
c) concentrate more on preventing rough sleeping happening and improving the effectiveness of services for long-term rough sleepers.
d) work to improve access to health care, education, training and employment for homeless people.

**HOUSEHOLD WASTE & RECYCLING**

People want to help the environment by cutting household waste and increasing recycling. We will:

a) roll out a new ‘Twin Bin’ recycling service, replacing the blue box with a brown bin for Metals, Glass and Plastics.
b) relaunch the green bin service with increased collection frequency but reduced price.
c) provide better recycling facilities for shared properties such as flats, high density housing, and student accommodation.
d) working to develop enhanced services for Household Waste Recycling Centres.

**ENERGY**

Energy in the UK is a broken market which a Labour Government would fix. In the meantime, the Council has run campaigns to lower people’s energy bills. We will:

a) establish a Sheffield Energy Company, encouraging and supporting our residents to access better deals, whilst reducing our city’s carbon footprint
b) continue installing Smart Energy Meters for Council tenants and establish Energy Surgeries to tackle fuel poverty more effectively.
c) work to further develop the District Heating Network.

**WELFARE REFORM**

Tory cuts to social security have hit the most vulnerable in this city hardest. The Bedroom Tax, cuts to disability benefits, and harsh sanctions are having a devastating impact. We will:

a) form an overarching policy in response to Universal Credit.
b) ensure no one is evicted from council tenancies solely as a result of delays in Universal Credit.
c) maintain our Council Tax Support at current levels and increase the overall Council Tax hardship fund.
Investing in a Vibrant City

Our city is a fantastic place to live and work. But Sheffield was hit harder in the 1980s than other core cities and has taken longer to recover. Research shows Sheffield is now Britain’s ‘Low Pay Capital’. Green shoots of recovery were nurtured by the last Labour Government, with significant public investment and a growing public sector. The Tories have sought to eliminate both. But we can change this.

A stronger economy will make this city fairer. More skilled jobs will put more pay in people’s pockets, but also put their talents to the best use. Economic growth also supports our local services, by increasing business rate revenue to the Council.

A CITY CENTRE RENAISSANCE

The keystone of our vision for the city’s renewal is the city centre. An attractive and busy city centre can be achieved in the twenty-first century as a vital part of the local economy. We will:

a) complete the Heart of the City 2 project, which seeks to regenerate a significant section of the centre and provide many uses, from shops to hotels and restaurants. It will also provide the best quality public space. Located at the very core of the city centre, it will bind together the old and the new, keeping the existing street patterns and historic buildings (such as Leah’s Yard) but adding in striking new architecture and unique outdoor spaces.
b) build a new Central Library and culture hub, which generations to come will be proud of.

c) seek to regenerate Castlegate with a second instalment of the ‘Grey to Green’ project and a new high-tech digital hub at Castle House. Regeneration of the Castle Markets site will rediscover the castle remains and the River Sheaf, is a key catalyst for the wider regeneration, identity and prosperity of Castlegate and adjoining Victoria Quays/Riverside Business District. We would like the Old Town Hall to be part of this vision.

d) launch the West Bar Square project, aiming to extend the City Centre to the riverside area. It will deliver a new city centre neighbourhood with a mix of office, residential, small retail and leisure uses built around very high quality public realm including two new public squares and new pedestrian routes to/from the City Centre, Kelham, Riverside and Burngreave/Woodside.

e) create a better atmosphere and keep pedestrians safe, we will create a 20MPH zone on all roads within the inner ring road. We will improve pedestrian routes, for example by seeking the re-establish the route through the Moorfoot archway.

f) ensure safety in the ‘night-time economy’. We are proud that nightlife in Sheffield city centre is famously lively yet safe, winning a Purple Flag award for safety. To put further safeguards in, we will instigate and develop a cumulative impact policy between licensing and public health.

MAJOR EVENTS

Our natural environment and lively culture make Sheffield the home of several major events. We welcomed the Tour De France and host the annual Cliffhanger festival. The Outdoor City Weekender is now an established weekend of outdoor pursuits and extreme sports events, featuring the Sheffield Adventure Film Festival. We will:

a) continue to promote Sheffield as The Outdoor City.

b) work with a developer to see a new outdoor sports centre at Parkwood Springs.

c) continue to support the well-established International events like Doc/Fest, Tramlines Festival and World Snooker.

NEW INDUSTRIES

We will:

a) continue to support the Advanced Manufacturing and Innovation District, building on the city’s historic expertise in engineering, manufacturing and materials research, alongside the engineering research and development know-how of the University of Sheffield and the Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (AMRC). Recent years have seen names including
Rolls-Royce, McLaren and Boeing locate in AMID, with Boeing opening its first manufacturing centre in Europe.

a) continue to support the Sheffield Olympic Legacy Park, utilising Sheffield’s unique strengths in sport, health and academia. The Sheffield OLP is a new leading cluster of centres focused on research, innovation and commercial development in health and wellbeing. Its initial focus is the planned Advanced Wellbeing Research Centre (AWRC), backed by the expertise in sport and exercise medicine at Sheffield Hallam University and Toshiba. Other facilities around sport and education are already complete, with plans being developed for two new national centres of excellence for child health and orthopaedic medicine.

b) continue to invest in business start-ups and scale-ups and provide inward investment.

c) put businesses at the centre of the skills system so that they can access the training they need.

FAIR JOBS & OPPORTUNITIES

We will:

a) encourage more employers to sign-up to the Fair Employer Charter – driving up working conditions and pay.

b) commit to a Job Match programme for businesses investing in Sheffield, by bringing the Council together with the Sheffield City Region and JobCentre Plus to coordinate recruitment and support.

FLOOD PROTECTION

We will:

build on the success of Lower Don Valley flood defences.

a) develop a new mechanism to manage the Lower Don Valley flood defences as the Business Improvement District (BID) comes to an end.

b) continue an incremental approach to flood defences as funding is secured, starting on the Loxley / Don confluence around Malin Bridge, Owleron and Hillsborough in 2018/19.

c) commence work on a culvert programme across three brooks.

d) investigate opportunities for micro hydro electricity generation as part of flood defences, providing income stream to maintain the physical measures.

e) continue to work with Government, Environment Agency and others such as Yorkshire Water to develop Sheffield’s flood protection to a level equal to that of London, in line with our status within the National Flood Resilience report.
Our prosperity depends on international links. Local businesses export goods and services right across the world. Our two universities produce world-renowned research which benefits from international collaboration.

But we will also address three challenges of globalisation. First is the displacement of skilled jobs that has taken place in the past few decades. The second is the risk of catastrophic climate change. The third is to continue our tradition as a sanctuary for refugees from conflict, in a time when the world is a more dangerous place.

Our goal is to ensure we live and work in harmony with each other and the natural world. Everyone can contribute.

BREXIT & OUR PLACE IN THE WORLD

A majority of the people of Sheffield voted to leave the EU. We respect their wishes, and Labour MPs voted accordingly. Our goal is to make sure Sheffield has the best future and is best placed to respond positively to the UK’s withdrawal from the European Union, paying special attention to those left behind by globalisation.

City-to-city links, both in Europe and across the globe, become more important after Brexit. So does city devolution, ensuring we have the representation we need. We will:

a) voice the interests of Sheffield to the UK and the EU.

b) work to build city-to-city links across Europe.
GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

To ensure our economic success, we will:

a) ensure a greater push on connecting small and medium sized businesses to global supply chains.
b) increase support for Sheffield’s growing digital economy and develop a “Talent into Tech” program to link the university’s talents into Sheffield’s growing tech sector.
c) continue our programme of making Sheffield’s businesses’ digitally savvy, productive and internationally-focused.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Catastrophic climate change is a risk for the entire world. But as a developed country with substantial greenhouse gas emissions, we have a special responsibility to act urgently. We will:

a) establish a Green City Partnership Board and a new multi-agency Sheffield Office of Climate Change.
b) work with partners to implement a city-wide Energy Strategy.
c) develop a Trade Waste Recycling Facility to encourage recycling by businesses.
d) work with South Yorkshire partners to develop a waste strategy to coordinate reducing and managing waste across the wider area.

PROVIDING SANCTUARY

We are proud to have been the first City of Sanctuary and we are committed to continue this. We will:

a) honour our commitments to taking in refugees and asylum seekers.
b) lobby the UK government for greater resources to enable greater sanctuary to be offered.

SPEAKING UP AGAINST INJUSTICE

Whether born here or abroad, many in Sheffield feel a deep responsibility to speak up when injustice happens across the world. In recent years we have recognised the independence of the Republic of Somaliland and, sadly, were moved to remove freedom of the city from Aung San Suu Kyi to protest at the treatment of the Rohingya. We will:

a) continue to use the Council to speak up on global concerns.
b) work towards peace in Kashmir and establish a Council working group on the issue.
c) continue to work with our MPs to press for recognition of Somaliland.
CHAPTER 8
Our Candidates

Labour is proud to stand for election in every part of the city and we represent wards in every parliamentary constituency.

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21
FOR THE MANY
NOT THE FEW

Labour