

Arts & Culture

Women's section:

Libraries are a valued community asset that should be maintained. Their sessions with carers of young children and babies help them form supportive networks in communities. They offer access to computers and internet for those who might otherwise be digitally excluded. They should feature more in work with schools and those excluded from education and with limited access to FE.

Community transport schemes should include journeys to libraries for those who cannot access them without transport, so people can be less isolated and fully use available community services. This could help develop volunteer opportunities in community transport schemes, helping knit communities together and developing skills and confidence among volunteers.

There should be more local/neighbourhood-based determination of arts/culture budgets (eg through Neighbourhood Partnerships) so the arts/culture offer is more broadly and community based, and more inclusive and diverse. Existing community based events funded by the council should continue and not be so strongly focussed on the city centre.

For those living in Bristol, the theatres and concert halls in receipt of Bristol funding should give reduction to Bristol citizens (in effect adding a charge to those from outside the city who do not contribute through taxation to this provision).

BSLP meeting

- Youth Centres!
- Continue/Improved funding for Community hubs/Centres as bases for developing projects/events
- Support and maintain existing community centres, sharing good practice and ideas e.g. Southville centre with smaller organisations
- Events in Parks – cafes
- “No centre – no heart”
 - Bring together local businesses with volunteers and ‘artists’ to use public spaces, especially underused ‘no-go’ areas.
 - Enterprise zone – Build business confidence/investment with local events and engagement
- Support to build groups of ‘friend’ or supporters for local parks etc. who can inform and create the events they want
- Communication! - Not everyone is online- support community newsletters, public information boards
- Character/culture
 - What is it to be Bristolian?
 - What is it to be from South Bristol?
 - City centre sucks everyone in, and the energy and character from communities.
- Encourage businesses e.g. cinemas to do cheap deals to bring people in

Communities and Neighbourhoods

Women's section:

*To do within the Labour Party:

We should go out and meet local people, identifying what's important to them and then campaign on this – eg rent costs

We need local accountability within local areas, with councillors, with MPs/Mayor, and opportunities to engage and campaign with them

We need influence and partnership with independent bodies, including as governors, and to be clear about practical outcomes from our activity that will make sense to voters

Be “out and proud” about being involved in activity as a labour member/voter or supporter to model our values and engagement – make this visible

Involve refugees and migrants and people arriving in Bristol in CLP work locally, to welcome and support them.

* Beyond the LP:

Develop a volunteer network/model that puts people in touch with each other to help each other out, eg car share and lifts, access to IT etc.

Re-develop Neighbourhood Partnerships so they have a community development rather than council admin approach. The NPS run by non-council organisations are better at this. Strengthen links with community safety teams. Promote organisations and partnerships that empower local communities. Ensure local organisations are working as best they can.

Promote info at a local level re fleeing domestic violence, reporting and supporting that experiencing hate crime etc

Develop an effective partnership with Police Commissioner on these and also restorative justice, community policing etc

Get the basics right – ensure the Council Customer Service is excellent

Economy

Women’s section:

Poverty is increasing in South Bristol, and the inequality gap widening. We need practical action that brings wealthier and poorer people together, eg through further support and development of the Credit Union.

South Bristol communities must benefit from the huge number of jobs at the Enterprise and smaller number at the Arena. How ill jobs and apprenticeships be targeted? There must be apprenticeships that do not require a degree or A levels to access.

Childcare costs are prohibitive and there are not enough childcare places – this has an impact on the economy and disproportionately affects women. If women (and men) are to participate in the digital and cultural economy – and other areas of growth, childcare must be available (especially at Temple Quay)

Local facilities must be recognised as contributing to the economy – eg Library access to computers and internet for job aps etc. and addressing digital exclusion, and as information hubs.

NEET groups INCLUDE young women and young mothers/carers. NEET activities and programmes must be more appropriate to young women.

Given the cuts to training budgets through the City Learning Partnership, college etc – The Mayor and Council will need a strategy at the LEP to ensure training provision is accessible to South Bristol people

BSLP meeting

- Internet access – We need high spec connections for new jobs in digital economy. Mayor to focus on Bristol and how we can fast track this and it must come to South Bristol.
- Transport – Links for people to get to work. In South Bristol how will the new development help this? Employment needs to be brought south of the river not just development in the north. Extra environmental initiatives to make up for the new road.
- Buildings – Business parks but without the businesses in South Bristol. Allow start –ups to have free/cheap rents in the short term. Money for start-ups
- Skills – Skills shortages in South Bristol, do our young people have access to good education and training? There are jobs and we need our young people to develop the skills to do them.
- Wages – Nation living wage/minimum wage.
- Remember South Bristol exists! On maps the Centre and North are there but not the South.
- Capital spend on parking initiatives- have the Council taken out a big loan to fund this?

Education Skills and Learning

Women's section:

Huge concern re young people falling between gaps – NEET in South Bristol. We need new/further approaches to up skill young people.

Work with employers to target young people without degrees and A levels for apprenticeships, and recognise “university of life” to draw in and re-engage local young people

Ensure those young people leaving the care system are fully supported

Encourage LP members as school governors to take our values in schools

Ensure jobs and apprenticeships at the Enterprise Zone (as well as Arena) target young people in South Bristol and promote access routes so they can get them.

Encourage media companies based in Bristol to take apprentices to Bristol young people to develop further Bristol's media industry, and to create local jobs

Protect City of Bristol College training in South Bristol

End “traditional” stereotyping/assumptions about the kind of work South Bristol young women will ultimately do in schools and FE

BSLP meeting

- There is a lack of careers advice/mentoring/positive role models (job wise/careers) in South Bristol – especially in disadvantaged areas. We want to see more careers advice/exposure to careers options/broadening horizons.
- We want more advice on training for adults. Especially for those adults who lack the necessary flexibility to attend courses (e.g. if they are in zero hours contracts).
- We would like to see more support for FE Colleges, and greater overall control/strategy for 6th form education – to avoid schools/institutions competing with each other for pupils.
- We are concerned that Apprenticeships may not be offering high quality training that leads to a rounded technical education. Could infrastructure project bids be linked to the provision of Apprenticeships?
- U3A – Want more provision for this, is there enough support.
- City of Bristol College – How can we widen the scope of what they do? Where is the funding for this?
- Encourage employers to fund training and education
- Labour –re-built every secondary school
- Arena- How will it bring jobs for people from South Bristol? Will there be education and training opportunities?

Health and social care

Women's section:

Social care is dependent on women – in low paid jobs, in the care sector, or as younger and older women caring for relatives. The population of older women in need of care is increasing. The impact of social care on women's lives is enormous.

We should identify which authorities are managing care services and support to carers elsewhere, and learn from good practice. We must link with current programmes (eg BAB) and develop these.

We should ensure carers, especially those caring for more than 1 person or across generations are identified on a register to make sure resources and support can be targeted at them, prioritising those in greatest need

We should make available/promote info about claiming personal independence payment PROR to reaching retirement age.

We should protect advice and support services in the city as these are essential to those in need of social care and their carers.

We should ensure high quality respite care continues and is supported.

BSLP meeting

- Can we contact Junior Doctors to support any action? (We have a JD member).
- Hospital parking charges
- How to make best use of S Bristol hospital and resources?
- GP contracts (see KS press release 12.11.15)
- 'Matching' Who is responsible, LA's or NHS?
- Mayor and LA: Wellbeing agenda, lots of public developments (e.g. fitness trails etc) is it enough? Children/Adults? Enough free resources for young people to be engaged
- Mental Health Services
 - Huge pressure on services, needs are un-met in huge amounts of cases
 - South Bristol Hospital, could it with MHS's or charities?
 - LA : Substance/Drug misuse – link with MHS's. Should Mayor have a position on this?
 - Alcohol a huge issue in Bristol
- (Karin Smyth - KS) - Biggest issue is Caring responsibilities- elderly/disability/illness. Private sector are being squeezed by LA money reduction
- **What should the Mayor campaign on?**
 - Care and Carers is biggest issue in South Bristol says KS
 - What can the Mayor/LA do? What do they have responsibility for? e.g. should there be more robust checks (financial etc.) or legislation of Care providers before the LA places clients in homes? Getting this wrong will result in 'private misery' for women in particular.
 - Apprenticeships (non professional roles) for carers or potential carers in South Bristol.
 - Is there enough awareness around care issues – Are problems being highlighted? Are we promoting LA provision for wellness like Parks and open spaces etc.
 - Neighbours, loneliness, community groups and voluntary actions. Council to lead on local schemes to encourage people to sign up to help elderly/ill
 - Mobile Carers parking permits- link to RPZ's issue about having to park away from clients houses, adds time, delays service offer etc. Could also include non council carers.

Housing

Women's section:

Lack of affordable homes to rent and buy disproportionately affects women.

Rising rents and lack of affordable housing in South Bristol is a key issue. We need to re-define the term "affordable" to reflect the great increases in costs to rent and buy in Bristol – much housing is now unaffordable. Planners should force developers to keep to their agreements for proportions of truly affordable housing in developments and we need more social housing built.

We should campaign for or implement a rent cap in the city, landlords should be registered, and tenancies made more secure for private tenants.

Have a Tenants Accreditation Scheme like the arrangement with the university, creating a one-stop shop for tenants and also potentially influencing increase good housing stock (have other councils already done this?)

Action is needed to deal with charges by agents to tenants. We want an Ethical Estate Agent Charter, offering a kite mark so tenants can know which agents will treat them reasonably alongside an Ethical Lettings Charter for Landlords.

We should compulsorily purchase empty homes and keep Discretionary Housing Payments budgets.

BSLP meeting

- Council to maintain Zero Carbon housing requirement (govt has scrapped BREAM Excellent).
- Solar Panels – Councils to rent roof space for solar panels – compensate householder (for 20 years?).
- Affordable Housing – Actually affordable and just as good quality. Link definition to % of local scheme. Binding agreements by planners. No ‘Poor doors’ in Bristol!
- Can Council set up company to raise funds to build houses (like Plymouth)?
- To use the principles of Fair Housing (as outlined above) to inform the local plan.
- Need to have an over-riding local strategy around emergency accommodation for homeless people.
 - Council run a multi agency emergency centre- link to Social Care
 - Storms, Flu jabs, advice, Mental Health services assessment
- Council to set up some kind of quality standard for Landlords and Letting Agencies.
- Challenging the narrative that housing benefit is a subsidy to scroungers! When really it subsidises landlords with multiple mortgages.
- Rising costs in housing leading to ‘gentrification’ even in South Bristol which has been traditionally cheaper, so squeezing out traditional communities.

(Would be best to refer to “homes” rather than “houses” when discussing housing policy, since bedsits, flats etc are included..)

Environment and Transport

Women’s section:

Support/further develop shared car schemes to services

Broaden community transport provision to take in libraries and other local services

Keep and enforce 20 mph limits

Recognise women’s travel patterns are complex, eg taking children to childcare then travelling to a core responsibility and also to paid work. South Bristol transport is limited to the Centre only – this doesn’t work for women in terms of time and cost.

Publicise car-sharing websites more.

Public transport needs to give access to jobs at the Arena and Enterprise Zone to all areas of S Bristol

BSLP meeting

- Abus service no 52- only once an hour, bad connection for communities near Crematorium
- Some services rely on subsidy – are buses a priority?
- Regulate services (company owned by Council?)
- Smarter around bus routes (to avoid traffic)
- Park and Ride on A 38? – on green belt Conservatives will stop this
- Ashton Gate railway station on new Portishead line – alleviate pressure from Bristol City FC
- Parking zones don’t help with congestion
 - People spend longer looking for parking
 - £94 for permit, should they have to pay? , double taxation on certain people
- Parking for Arena
 - Totterdown and Windmill Hill not taken into account (maps stop at the river)
 - Underground/multi storey near arena e.g. Avonmeads with shuttle bus

- Regulate and Integrate e.g. Oyster style cards
- Cycle friendly road junctions
- Cycle hire schemes
 - Free bike hire
 - GPS to prevent theft
- Investment from Bristol Institutions – Health Services, public, private funding?

Environment

- More use of green spaces
 - Bedminster fun-day on the Downs
 - Events
- Stop Allotments being sold off
- Involve schools in community gardening projects
- If playing fields sold off – convert to allotments e.g. old Hengrove School
- More cafes in parks
- Litter and graffiti
 - Policing
 - Community schemes to help littering (help from Council)
- Solar panels instead of Hinkley point, on every house
- Wind farms- Imperial Park, old airport (Hengrove Park)
- Bristol Energy – green energy
- Recycling centre – prevent fly tipping