

TACKLING POVERTY AND INEQUALITY, DELIVERING FOR BRISTOLIANS

(GREEN AMENDMENT)

Full Council notes that:

1. The Government's continued pursuit of ideological austerity will see local government face a £7.8 billion funding gap by 2025, according to the Local Government Association.ⁱ
2. Data showing that the UK's progress on life expectancy stalled in 2015-17, against a historic trend of improvementⁱⁱ, with life expectancy falling for the poorest for the first time since the end of the Second World Warⁱⁱⁱ; deprived areas often suffer the worst health outcomes^{iv}; and preventable diseases caused by smoking, obesity, and alcohol account for almost 110,000 early deaths each year in the UK, with smoking-related ill health alone costing local authorities some £760 million per annum in social care costs^v.

Full Council believes that:

1. The Government should have listened to calls from across the political spectrum to end austerity and invest in Bristol and other cities.
2. We should make Bristol the UK's first real Living Wage City, and engage with city employers, trade unions, and the Living Wage Foundation to work towards this.
3. Cutting prevention services is a false economy. Cuts to public health grant funding, which will see local authorities left with over half a billion pounds less to spend next year than in 2015/16, must be reversed by the Government.

Full Council resolves to:

1. Call on all Party Group Leaders (PGLs) and the Mayor to write to the Prime Minister and call for fair funding for Bristol and an end to austerity.
2. Work to ensure that the 2019 budget is as progressive as possible by protecting support for the most vulnerable through the Council Tax Reduction Scheme and Local Crisis and Prevention Fund, and standing up for local services.
3. Encourage local employers to follow Bristol City Council's lead on the real Living Wage, and back the Mayor's plan to work with the Living Wage Foundation to roll out the real Living Wage across Bristol – making Bristol the first Living Wage City in the UK
4. Work to support progress in building new homes, especially affordable and social, and with high standards of energy efficiency to keep people's bills low.
5. Endorse calls from Cancer Research UK and others for the UK Government to invest in public health, and a sustainable health and social care system, and also back the One City

Approach of utilising the resources, influence, and energy of city partners alongside that of the local authority.

ⁱ <https://www.local.gov.uk/moving-the-conversation-on/funding>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/whats-happening-life-expectancy-uk>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/life-expectancy-uk-plumments-ons-data-hartlepool-torridge-amber-valley-barnsley-a8164171.html>

^{iv}

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthinequalities/bulletins/healthstatelifeexpectanciesbyindexofmultipledeprivationimd/englandandwales2014to2016#life-expectancy-and-healthy-life-expectancy-in-england-by-index-of-multiple-deprivation-2015-imd15-2014-to-2016>

^v

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/630217/Towards_a_Smoke_free_Generation_-_A_Tobacco_Control_Plan_for_England_2017-2022__2_.pdf