

**SHEFFIELD LABOUR PARTY  
MANIFESTO FOR MAY 2022**

**“Putting  
Sheffield  
First”**



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# Manifesto Pledges 2022

If elected in May, Labour Councillors will deliver:

## Secure, Prosperous, Respected Neighbourhoods

- ⇒ **A Sheffield standard for all homes.** Whether a private renter or a Council tenant, we will empower you to expect the same high service.
- ⇒ **Extra enforcement** to tackle local issues.
- ⇒ Greater investment in **street cleaning** and **green spaces**.
- ⇒ Make Sheffield a city of '**15-minute neighbourhoods**'.
- ⇒ Ensure the Council listens to, respects, and acts on local opinion.

## Economic Recovery and Clean Growth

- ⇒ Continue to build a more prosperous and sustainable Sheffield post-pandemic.
- ⇒ Help deliver a high-wage, high-skilled, high-employment local economy.
- ⇒ Invest **£2 million extra into local centres and high streets** to support their economic growth.
- ⇒ Help to tackle the **climate emergency**, **protect green spaces**, and deliver **clean growth**:
- ⇒ **Invest £3.5m for the installation of renewable energy** on community hubs, such as **schools, libraries, and community centres**, and retrofit council homes.
- ⇒ Our 'Local Plan' will **protect the Green Belt and urban green spaces** – with new homes on brownfield sites, and closer to the city centre.
- ⇒ Make Sheffield **carbon net-zero by 2030**.

## Improved Early Intervention and Prevention services

- ⇒ Prioritise early intervention and prevention services – to identify and tackle issues at the earliest possible stage.
- ⇒ Provide community groups with an **extra £1 million to combat social isolation**.
- ⇒ Deliver more for young people – **increasing youth provision** to a minimum of 3 provisions for every council ward (worth 6 hours every week for youth work sessions).
- ⇒ Committed to **tackling homelessness and addiction problems**.
- ⇒ **Street enforcement** to tackle litter, fly-tipping, and graffiti, and to support the police in their work.

## Support Residents through the Cost-of-Living Crisis

- ⇒ Tackling inequalities and truly levelling up Sheffield is at the heart of everything we do.
- ⇒ We will provide extra resources to support community groups, including a new '**volunteers fund**' to help support areas struggling to get volunteer support.
- ⇒ We will deliver a **food access plan** – to support the co-ordination of the city's food banks.
- ⇒ We will invest in **renewable and local energy**, and go even further with the district heating network, to help **keep bills down for community groups, businesses, and residents**.

## An Inclusive and Fair City – For All

- ⇒ Our **Local Area Committees** will fundamentally change how the Council operates – making it more responsive to local needs, and rooting services at the most local level.
- ⇒ Committed to parents and guardians **sending their children to their local school of choice**.
- ⇒ Committed to maintaining Sheffield's status as a **City of Sanctuary**.
- ⇒ Committed to a cultural offer that is for everyone in the city: we will spend millions revamping the city's leisure facilities, and we want to create a nationally renowned '**Gallery for the North**'.
- ⇒ Deliver improved connectivity, active travel measures, and public transport:
- ⇒ We are calling for **Bus Franchising** – so that local people can decide the routes, timetables and fares.
- ⇒ We will provide a '**FreeBee Bus**' – to help people get around the city centre

# Pledge 1: Secure, Prosperous, Respected Neighbourhoods

**No matter where you live, you should expect the same high standard of living.**

Underpinning every financial decision we make is a commitment to tackling inequalities and levelling up the city, but in a uniquely Sheffield way.

The Tory government talks of ‘levelling up’, but the Conservatives taken over a billion pounds from Sheffield public services. The Council has almost a third less money (31%) for services than it did in 2010. This is widening the inequalities in the city – but we will always fight back.

**We are committed to a genuine levelling-up of the city and a Labour majority will deliver:**

## A Sheffield Standard for All Homes

Whether you’re a Council, social, or private tenant you should expect the same high standard.

For too long rogue landlords have provided poor housing, at great cost to local communities. We want to ‘level up’ the standard of homes everywhere in the city. No matter where you live you should expect the same standard from your landlord.

Government needs to support and fund the council to implement a **city-wide licensing scheme** – so that tenants can expect a high standard no matter where they live.



# Pledge 1: Secure, Prosperous, Respected Neighbourhoods

## **More Affordable, High Standard, Council Homes**

We are committed to delivering social homes, built in the right places.

A Labour majority will help deliver our target of providing an extra 3,100 council homes. We will upgrade all Council homes to EPC C (Energy Performance Level C) – making homes warmer and reducing bills.

We will also retrofit 6,000 homes with new roofs, and 2,000 homes will benefit from boiler replacements.

We are investing millions more into the Council homes repairs service – to tackle the backlog caused by the pandemic, and deliver a significantly improved service.

The first **Independent Living Housing Scheme** will be brought in this year – delivering better support and improving the choice of homes available for older residents and those with disabilities (both physical and learning).

But this is just the start – we are committed to going even further and delivering more to support independent living.



# Pledge 1: Secure, Prosperous, Respected Neighbourhoods

## Safer, Cleaner, More Sustainable Neighbourhoods

**Safer:** more action to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour with enforcement officers in every part of the city, supported by a safer neighbourhood team and an even greater focus on preventative work.

**Cleaner:** we will invest in more cameras and CCTV to tackle litter, graffiti, and fly tipping, and we will open Household Waste Centres for longer and 7 days a week.

We will create a new '**Street Cleaning Fund**', directing extra support to the areas of most need.

**Sustainable:** we will put record investment into parks, protect urban green spaces and the green belt, and deliver cleaner air for everyone.

## 15-Minute Neighbourhoods

We want to develop sustainable neighbourhoods – where most services you could need are nearby.

If residents choose to, we want to support them to be within a 15-minute journey – via foot, cycle or public transport – from their home, for work, commerce, healthcare, education, entertainment, and parks.



We want to make all our neighbourhoods safe and positive places to live. We have enacted **anti-idling zones** outside all primary and secondary schools (to improve local air quality) and we will continue rolling out **20 mph zones in residential areas** throughout the city.

## Connected Places; Demanding Better Public Transport

Under Labour the Council will spend millions on providing the right roads and cycle lanes that help people get to where they need to be.

The city's public transport offer simply isn't good enough. We are calling for **Bus Franchising** – so that local people can decide the routes, timetables and fares, rather than profit-driven bus companies.



# Pledge 2: Economic Recovery & Clean Growth

## Regenerate Local Centres and High Streets

We will spend £2 million extra to revitalise local centres and give community high streets a much-needed boost.

Last year, Labour Councillors' manifesto commitment delivered significant investment to local centres throughout the city – including in Hillsborough, Firth Park, Chapeltown, Totley, Broomhill, Mosborough and Walkley, as well as driving extra footfall to the city centre. We want to go even further next year and will provide the funding to revitalise local high streets, suited to their needs.



## Community Wealth Building

Your Labour Council will continue to do everything we can to keep as much money as possible in the local economy. In the 12 months before the pandemic £80 million more was kept in the local economy through our procurement policies, which ensure priority for local contracts and suppliers.

We want to go further with a '**Community Wealth Building Charter**'.

We are committed to long-term collaboration between the city's anchor institutions, supporting shared 'Community Wealth Building' goals to commit to fair employment, opportunities for development, growing the local economy, and supporting small businesses and the voluntary sector. We will work collaboratively to take climate action and deliver clean growth for the entire region.

We want to see all employers paying the Real Living Wage, increase work security, spend more with local suppliers in South Yorkshire, and empower employees to be informed and involved in decision making.

As part of this funding, we will also look at how we keep the excess energy from the district heating network and explore options around a **energy storage facility**.

# Pledge 2: Economic Recovery & Clean Growth

## Deliver Clean Growth and Help Tackle the Climate Emergency

We are committed to tackling the climate emergency and delivering clean growth – Sheffield Labour Councillors declared a Climate Emergency and set a target for the city to be carbon net zero by 2030.

We will clean up the city's air, reduce our carbon footprint, protect our green spaces, help to lower bills and emissions for Council homes, and create the sustainable jobs of the future.

## Invest in Local Renewable Energy

We will make huge investments in local renewable energy – to deliver clean growth and help against the cost-of-living crisis.

We will invest **£3.5 million to support the installation of renewable energy** on Council properties, especially community hubs such as **schools, libraries, community centres**, and review Council housing stock that may also be potential.

These schemes will not only support the decarbonisation of the Council's estate but will also instigate supply chain and low carbon business and skills opportunities in the local economy.

As part of this funding, we will also look at how we keep the excess energy from the district heating network and explore options around a **energy storage facility**.

## Protection for the City's Green Belt and Green Spaces

We have developed a Housing Strategy (called the 'Local Plan') to ensure that Sheffield's Green Belt is protected from development. We want to see new homes on brownfield sites closer to the city centre and leave the **Green Belt and green spaces free from development**.

We will deliver homes in sustainable, well-connected places.



# Pledge 2: Economic Recovery & Clean Growth

## The Climate Challenge and Opportunities of Clean Growth

We are clear that Government will need to play its part in enabling finance, empowering local authorities and intervening in markets that currently do not work as they need to, to meet this challenge. We will challenge Government to recognise and actively support the ambition and potential that cities have to move ahead of Government timescales.

Despite these challenges, under our leadership the Council is delivering retrofit schemes to Council homes to improve the energy efficiency of the housing stock and creating decarbonisation plans for non-domestic buildings in the Council's estate.

We are delivering a **£50 million programme of active travel and public transport improvements** across the city through our 'Connecting Sheffield' programme, and installing electric charging points.

We are also identifying land across the city which could be suitable for renewable energy generation and battery storage infrastructure, and will work with Northern Power on grid capacity requirements.

## Measuring Climate Impact

We are ensuring the Council introduces climate impact assessments on its decisions, a process which starts at project feasibility and runs throughout the development of business cases, through to project delivery and monitoring. This will improve the transparency of decision-making and ensure climate impacts are considered and mitigating actions explored as early as possible.

## Improving Air Quality

We committed Sheffield to bringing in a Clean Air Zone. We've worked hard to make sure it will clean up the city's air – with the most polluting buses, taxis, vans, coaches and lorries paying a charge to enter the city centre.

But this transition must be done fairly, with private cars exempt, and with the right financial support available for businesses to make the upgrades needed – and we secured £24 million from Government to do this.



# Pledge 3: Early Intervention & Prevention

## Early Intervention and Prevention

The Council spends over £40 million every year on preventative services. Despite the budget cuts from the national government, we have protected prevention and intervention services.

We are steadfast in our commitment to tackling issues at the root cause and the earliest opportunity. Due to government inaction this gets harder and harder, but locally we will do everything we can.

We will invest **£1 million to support community groups dealing with social isolation.**

We will invest more in **healthy activities** and **tackling digital exclusion.**

We will re-shape and prioritise all intervention and prevention services – so that the council is stepping in at the earliest possible point to help everyone in Sheffield.



## Social Care

We will continue to invest more in adult and children's social care.

We believe in doing everything we can to support the care sector and we commit to implementing **GMB's Ethical Home Care Commissioning Charter** – committing to a series of principles, aims and objectives for home care.

We will continue to challenge government on the urgent need to provide adequate funding to provide residents with the care they need, and to ensure home care workers can be properly recognised for the essential frontline service they provide.

# Pledge 3: Early Intervention & Prevention

## Supporting the City's Young People

We will deliver more for young people – **increasing youth provision** to a minimum of 3 provisions for every council ward (worth 6 hours every week for youth work sessions). Last year we secured youth provision in every ward of the city.

We will ensure the Council takes on more apprentices and provides better training opportunities.



## Tackling Homelessness and Addiction Problems

Homelessness is a national scandal. *Crisis UK* and *The Big Issue* figures show that **rough sleeping has increased by 94% nationally in the last decade**. This is an abhorrent failure by national government.

We will continue to do everything we can to tackle the root causes of the issues, and support those in need to get the required help. Through prioritising early intervention and prevention services we want to tackle the issues that lead to homelessness, begging, and rough sleeping.

## Community Enforcement

We will deliver **street enforcement** to tackle litter, fly-tipping, and graffiti, and to support the police in their work.

We are re-organising how Council services are delivered – with our **Local Area Committees** making the Council more responsive to local needs, and rooting Council services at the most local level – so that issues are not only acted on quicker, but so that preventative measures can be used most effectively.

# Pledge 4: Support Residents through the Cost-of-Living Crisis

Sheffield residents are struggling with stagnant wages and rising prices – with inflation out of control.

There is a global gas price crisis, but **10 years of the Conservative (and Lib Dem) failed energy policies has left us uniquely exposed**. Their dither, delay and incompetence have created an energy price crisis being felt by everyone.

Tackling inequalities and truly levelling up Sheffield are at the heart of everything we do, and we will provide extra resources to support community groups – including a new '**volunteers fund**' (worth £500,000) to help provide support in the areas of the city struggling to get volunteer support.

We have provided [food vouchers](#) and [free school meals](#) to nearly 30,000 children from low-income households during the school holidays – when government has shamefully refused to act during the pandemic.



# Pledge 4: Support Residents through the Cost-of-Living Crisis

## Access to Food

We will enact a '**Local Food Access Plan**' to pull together all the work being undertaken in the city to combat food poverty, and to help better support all Sheffield organisations working to tackle food poverty, including food banks and luncheon clubs.

## Supporting Renewable Energy and Driving Down Bills

We will invest in **renewable and local energy**, and go even further with the district heating network, to help **keep bills down for community groups, businesses, and residents**.

## Tackling Digital Exclusion

We are committed to **tackling digital exclusion** – and will provide devices to Voluntary, Community, and Faith (VCF) organisations, along with cash grants so they can loan devices to their members.

## Supporting Community, Voluntary and Faith Organisations

Throughout this crisis the Council has been working closely with the city's voluntary organisations. We are supporting the work of Community Hubs, who bring together charities and organisation to co-ordinate volunteers and help vulnerable people across the city in some of the following ways:

- ⇒ Collecting and delivering shopping and medication
- ⇒ Supporting local food banks
- ⇒ Working with mutual aid groups
- ⇒ Reinforcing public health messages
- ⇒ Advice, case work and signposting – this has involved supporting people in many ways, including fleeing domestic abuse, and recovering from addiction.



# Pledge 5: An Inclusive and Fair City—For All

No matter who you are or where you live, the Council should be there to support you and deliver a high standard of service.

We will make sure your Council listens to you, respects your opinions, and acts on information. Our **Local Area Committees will fundamentally shift how the Council operates** – so it is more responsive to the needs of neighbourhoods and delivers key services at the most local level.

We are committed to devolving powers away from Town Hall and to residents.

## Supporting Schools



The government is failing to support our city's schools.

But we are committed to parents and guardians getting their children to their local school, and first choice, and will do everything we can to support this endeavour.

We are committed to working with all of the city's education providers to ensure no child or young person is left behind by this government.

## Sheffield as a City of Sanctuary



We are committed to maintaining Sheffield's status as a City of Sanctuary, and to always taking our fair share of those in need.

We will always stand up to fight injustices, wherever they may be in the world.

# Pledge 5: An Inclusive and Fair City—For All

## A City of Leisure for Everyone

Last year our wide-ranging Leisure Strategy committed the Council to investing £100 million over the next 30 years for a radical uplift of facilities.

This funding will revamp Ponds Forge, Heeley Pool and Gym, Beauchief, Birley and Tinsley golf courses, Sheffield Arena, and Sheffield City Hall.

This funding will also lead to the rebuilding of Springs Leisure Centre, Hillsborough Leisure Centre, and Concord Sports Centre – creating a leisure offer the city can be proud of.

We also secured additional investment to create the S1 Arts Space (Park Hill), and a new music hub in Castlegate.



But we want to go further. We will work to create a '**Gallery for the North**' – giving Sheffield an internationally renowned arts gallery and helping to make Sheffield the preeminent place in the North for culture, sport, music and art.

We will support **Sheffield as the Home of Football**, and seek to maximise all the benefits this can bring for the city.

# Pledge 5: An Inclusive and Fair City—For All

## A Connected City, with Better Public Transport

It is a long-standing commitment of ours to make sure everyone can get around the city easily, cheaply and sustainably.

We have long since called for **Bus Franchising** – so that local people can decide the routes, timetables and fares, rather than profit-driven bus companies. We will work closely with the incoming South Yorkshire Mayor to deliver this.

Since government de-regulated buses the Council has little direct control, but we will use whatever powers we can secure to drive down costs, and make transport more accessible for all.

We will invest in bringing back the **FreeBee Bus** – to help get people around the city centre, and ensure that once again people can easily get to the top of Fargate.



# **Sheffield Labour:** Putting Sheffield **First**

