



Bristol Climate &
Nature Partnership

ANNUAL REVIEW

2023/24

Contents

	Chair's message	03
	Our vision, purpose and values	04
	Community Climate Action Project	07
	Climate Action Programme	15
	One City Approach	21
	Just transition	23
	Rebrand	25
	Highlights	28
	CEO's message	33
	Our people	38



AMBITION AND INNOVATION

With so many other challenges and competing priorities at a local, national and global level, it can be easy to feel that the climate and nature crises are not getting the attention they deserve. And there is no doubt that faster, fairer, and more widespread action is needed on all these stages.

And yet I am constantly inspired by the efforts and determination of people in our communities, businesses, and the public sector, who show relentless commitment to finding solutions and taking steps forward.

It is this balance which Bristol Climate & Nature Partnership holds so well — acknowledging the challenges we face, being with the discomfort, and at the same time celebrating progress and holding firmly on to hope. The new brand captures this brilliantly — positivity combined with boldness, and importantly, showing that people are at the heart of what the Partnership does.

I've been thrilled to see the Community Climate Action Project reach even more communities this year, with the launch of new community climate action plans and an innovative, wide-ranging Climate and Disability programme. Meanwhile, the Climate Action Programme continues to provide high-quality, practical support to an ever-increasing number of businesses.

Working collectively, which is at the heart of what the Partnership does, continues to be vital if we are to create the transformation needed. The Partnership is hugely grateful for the contributions of all its members and partners for all that they do for the city. And a massive thank you to our supporting members, without whom this work would not be possible.



MOHAMMED SADDIQ

 Chair of the Board of Directors

OUR VISION

A zero carbon, socially just Bristol where all our communities and nature thrive.

OUR PURPOSE

To catalyse collective citywide action towards a zero carbon, socially just and nature-rich Bristol.



OUR VALUES

IMPACT



We are committed to making change happen

COLLABORATION



We love working together

COURAGE



We hold hope and discomfort

WELLBEING



We work sustainably



IN 2023/24...



171

new member organisations joined the Partnership

22,199

social media followers



2,850

newsletter readers



1,704

attendees at events, workshops & forums



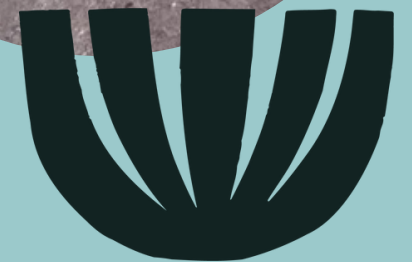
25,781

website visits



7

green mingles



COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION PROJECT



CONVERSATION
CORNER

Pioneering bold and fair community-led action

The Community Climate Action Project has gone from strength to strength this year, involving more, and more diverse communities in local climate and nature action.

Five new communities developed and launched their community climate action plans, and we welcomed Bristol Older People's Forum, Gloucestershire Country Cricket Club (and the Next Test), Cliftonwood and Hotwells Community Association, One Green Kitchen, Rising Arts Agency and the Shirehampton Community Action Forum to the learning and mentoring programme.



Cohort 1 Partner Forum July 2023



Cohort 2 Climate Action Plans launch in April 2024



Cohort 3 first meeting in May 2024



“It’s been valuable, encouraging and rewarding working with partners rooted in communities across Bristol. I think it’s highlighted the importance of doing this work together and that amplifying the voices of our communities across the city is how this work will be most effective. The scale of the climate and ecological crises facing our communities is intimidating, and we’d like to meet them with collective hope and action.”

ELLA TAINTON



Climate and Nature Action Coordinator
Southmead Development Trust



Our cohort 1 community partners have forged ahead with their innovative demonstrator projects, which bring direct social, carbon and biodiversity benefits to the city.

They have also continued to shape the strategic Community Leadership Panel on Climate and Just Transition and the Inclusive Transport Vision.

190

tonnes of
carbon saved

2,200

kg compost
generated

3,700

local people
involved in
community climate
action events and
activities across
the city

1,300

trees
planted



© Southmead Development Trust



“The Community Climate Action Project harnesses the power of community to make the biggest issue of our time real to those often most affected but least engaged. It gives them agency; it gives them hope. The project has enabled diverse community organisations to become respected climate leaders and highlights the important role of communities in influencing local climate strategies. It is a useful model which other places can learn from, and we were pleased to be able to share the project at our 2023 national conference.”

TIM TEMPLE



Development Manager
Locality



The critical role of community leadership on climate and nature has become increasingly embedded in the city's net zero approach through new projects and funding, and the national importance of the project has been celebrated through the Locality Conference and Festival of the Future City.

Creativity is essential to how the community climate project inspires a diverse range of people to connect with climate and nature issues. This year we commissioned local creatives Kat Lyons, Ian Solomon-Kawall and Euella Jackson to produce poetry, an eco-rap and films, all exploring a just transition.

Our new Climate and Disability programme was developed to build upon the community climate action plan from Bristol Disability Equality Forum — catalysing climate and nature leadership by Bristol's community of Disabled people.

This programme is dedicated to the late Laura Welti, an inspiring disability and climate activist and respected former project colleague.





“The Disabled community will be one of the most impacted by climate change and yet has long been excluded from the climate change movement. As experts in adaptation, the experiences and insights of Disabled people are essential to how we collectively respond to the climate crisis. The Partnership’s new Climate and Disability programme is enabling Bristol’s community of Disabled people to lead and influence climate and nature action locally – this is an important element of a just transition to net zero in Bristol.”

DR SARAH BELL



Senior Lecturer in Health Geography
University of Exeter/ Sensing Climate Project



Funded by



Working together



In partnership with



Climate Action partners



CLIMATE ACTION PROGRAMME



Supporting organisations to take climate action

The Climate Action Programme has continued to grow this year, supporting even more organisations to reduce their emissions, support nature, and adapt to the impacts of a changing climate.

Our events, resources and peer-to-peer learning opportunities provide practical help for the increasing number of businesses that want to take positive steps for climate and nature.

NatWest Group and Bristol City Council have continued their support to enable the Climate Action Programme to be free to access. We've also been able to reach new businesses and provide tailored support through our partnerships with the City Centre and Redcliffe & Temple Business Improvement Districts.

Over
450
organisations
have
attended
events

Our Climate
Action Programme
resources have
been viewed over
15,000
times



“Bristol Climate & Nature Partnership are a fantastic and passionate team that has delivered a series of well-attended and extremely engaging events to support businesses on their climate action planning journey. They are driving change in our city for a greener and more sustainable future, and we are very proud to be working with them to achieve this for businesses and the wider community.”

VICKY LEE



Director
Bristol City Centre Business Improvement District

Our events have covered topics such as decarbonising commercial buildings, supporting nature recovery and creating a climate action plan.

We have continued to add to our comprehensive resource library, including new resources on unlocking the power of procurement to reduce scope 3 emissions, tackling business waste and several new case studies.

We also enabled free 1-2-1 expert support from Eunomia through our Climate Surgeries as part of UWE's Skills for Clean Growth Programme.

“This event was a great introduction and summary of what the main issues and challenges are that all organisations face in relation to climate change... After listening to the speakers, I felt reassured that our charity is heading in the right direction and confident that we can make even more progress.”

SARAH



Climate Action Breakfast: Carbon Data attendee



The Climate Leaders Group has continued to offer a friendly and supportive space for organisations with ambitions to be carbon neutral by 2030. Its sessions have included sharing tips and learnings on embedding just transition and measuring emissions from business travel, commuting and homeworking.

- [Read more about the Climate Action Programme in our year three report.](#)
- [Access the Climate Action Programme resource library.](#)



Climate Leaders Meeting in March 2024



Climate Action Breakfast in May 2024



Intention to Action clinic in November 2023



Bristol Climate &
Nature Partnership

CLIMATE ACTION PROGRAMME

Sponsored by



ONE CITY APPROACH



One City Approach

The Partnership continued to provide secretariat for the One City Environment Board and the Bristol Advisory Committee on Climate Change (BACCC) during 2023–24.

The Environment Board played an important role in supporting the priorities set out in the Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategies, with board members monitoring progress against One City Plan goals and sharing calls to action at City Gatherings. The board fed into key initiatives, including the EU Climate Neutral Smart Cities Mission and the Bristol Tree and Woodland Strategy, and hosted a workshop to explore the Bristol Just Transition Declaration and how its principles can be implemented.

BACCC received local media coverage on its progress review of the One City Climate Strategy which highlighted that the city is still way off meeting its 2030 goals, despite some positive progress. During this period BACCC also strengthened links with the national Climate Change Committee, provided feedback on the draft Bristol Local Plan, and reviewed the emissions baseline and methodology for Bristol City Council.



JUST TRANSITION



© ShamPhat Photography



A just transition for Bristol

The transition to net zero provides a unique opportunity to respond to systemic social inequity. The Partnership has continued to highlight that economic and social injustices are intrinsically interlinked with the climate and nature crises.

Over the last year, our programmes have championed just transition through creative commissions, a workshop for local businesses and our annual gathering. This brought together a diverse range of speakers to explore how the transition to net zero can and should be fair, and create opportunities for local people.

We have helped embed just transition more widely within the city — through our new Inclusion Associate role on the citywide Mission Net Zero project, the continued development of our innovative Community Leadership Panel on Just Transition and through the final Festival of the Future City.

Internally, we have integrated just transition into our organisational theory of change, through our new branding, and by developing our new climate and disability programme. Just transition will continue to remain central to the Partnership's activities and ways of working.



REBRAND



A new brand for a bold new chapter

In February 2024 the Partnership launched a new name (Bristol Climate & Nature Partnership, formally Bristol Green Capital Partnership), brand and website, working with Bristol-based brand and digital studio Fiasco.

This evolution in our look-and-feel reflects a shift in who we are, what we work on and the context we are operating in. Whilst remaining true to our history and core values, we wanted to communicate our increased level of ambition, our dedication to the three pillars of climate, nature and social justice and be accessible and meaningful to more, and more diverse people.

The result is a brand we believe is positive, bold and inclusive. The change marks an exciting new chapter in the Partnership's story, one that we are confident will support us for the challenging and important work to come.

We hope you like it!





“The new brand feels really inviting. It's lovely to see people at the heart of the website, it feels much more inclusive.”

RACHEL MOFFAT



Coordinator
Bristol Energy Network



HIGHLIGHTS



© Lockleaze Neighbourhood Trust



Green Mingles

Our monthly Green Mingles continue to be an important space for anyone interested in environmental sustainability in Bristol to connect with each other, share ideas and hear about action taking place in the city.

During this period, themes included food, nature, energy, and sustainable fashion. We also held an extra special mingle in February 2024 to launch our new brand.

We are grateful to the Loaf at Bristol Beacon for hosting us until the Beacon's reopening in November 2023. We are now hosting mingles at The Station.



Bristol City Leap

With the support of Bristol City Leap, we delivered a range of activities to support businesses and community organisations to take inclusive action across Bristol.

Bristol City Leap supported our just transition gathering in June, which hosted an important conversation about the transition to net zero as an opportunity to tackle systemic inequalities, and our follow up event with the Climate Leaders Group on the opportunities and challenges for businesses.

Bristol City Leap led an energy systems masterclass for Community Climate Action partners and supported the cohort two graduation event in April 2024, which launched new community climate action plans.



BRISTOL
city leap



© ShamPhat Photography

Mission Net Zero

In early 2024, we announced the Partnership's involvement in the Mission Net Zero project – a £5 million initiative running from March 2024 to November 2025 funded by Innovate UK's Net Zero Living programme.

It aims to reduce the region's carbon emissions by addressing some of the barriers to progress, such as a lack of investment and not enough people trained in retrofit skills.

We led an open Expression of Interest process to recruit three community partners (Knowle West Media Centre, Southmead Development Trust and Eastside Community Trust), who will develop community-based energy projects that generate clean energy locally and reduce energy usage in homes and neighbourhoods.



Look out for opportunities to get involved.



Funded by



Innovate
UK



© Ibolya Feher



Sustainable Transport Network

Members of the Sustainable Transport Network continued to meet to share information, discuss issues related to transport and identify opportunities for collaboration.

Local nature recovery

We supported businesses to input into the development of the West of England Local Nature Recovery Strategy, with one-to-one meetings with businesses across the region and a workshop featuring presentations and discussions. Businesses shared their priorities for nature and how the strategy could best be designed to support them to do more for nature.

CEO'S MESSAGE



LIZZI TESTANI



Chief Executive Officer
Bristol Climate & Nature
Partnership



VICKI WOOLLEY



Head of Operations &
Interim CEO June 2023 —
May 2024

It is an exciting and pivotal time for the Partnership. In 2024 we published our theory of change and updated our name and brand. We wanted to capture the collective spirit of the Partnership — the combination of hope and determination required to address the climate and nature crises and the need to have people at the heart of our response.

We have been delighted by the reception of our members and collaborators to our new brand. We will soon launch a three-year strategy for our growing organisation to solidify the Partnership's role as a key delivery partner in the region. This strategy will support a system-wide movement for climate and nature that recognises and enables the contributions of all member organisations.

CEO'S MESSAGE

Next year, we will:

- 🌱 Grow and support a thriving Partnership that inspires, informs and connects members to take climate and nature action – expanding to a regional scale to increase the impact and coherence of the region's environmental movement
- 🌿 Increase the number of communities with Community Climate Action Plans and support them to deliver action
- ✳️ Expand and deepen our support to Bristol organisations to accelerate equitable climate action, resilience and nature recovery
- 🌿 Share our work on national platforms to inspire other places to prioritise a just transition

Our work would not be possible without the vital contribution of our expert staff team — and the brilliant contributions of our chair, directors, funders, collaborators and supporting members.

Most important of all are our members and the incredible work you do to progress climate and nature action in the city and region — supporting our vision for a 'zero carbon, socially just Bristol where our communities and nature thrive'. We see and celebrate you!

Please get in touch if you can support our work or if you'd like to get more involved.

BECOME A MEMBER

If you're from a business, public sector body, charity or community group in Bristol, you and your organisation can join this unique network of organisations working towards a zero carbon, socially just Bristol where all our communities and nature thrive.



As a member, you can:

- ★ Benefit from peer support, practical advice and innovative ideas as part of our Climate Action Programme
- ✿ Exchange news and ideas with a huge variety of people and organisations through our regular newsletter and membership blog
- ✿ Be the first to hear about sustainability news, opportunities and the various events and activities that we hold throughout the year
- ≡ Stay informed and involved in the key decision-making processes taking place in the city and wider region.

bristolclimatenature.org/get-involved

THANK YOU

Firstly, thank you to our members. The Partnership is a collaborative effort, and we know we can achieve so much more together than we can alone.

We would also like to say a big thank you to our supporting members whose generous financial and wider contributions enable our programmes and resources to remain accessible for businesses and organisations of any size in Bristol.

Together, we are making positive change.

With thanks to our supporting members



OUR STAFF TEAM



Amy Harrison
Head of Community
Partnerships



Anna Ralph
Senior Coordinator



Bex Shreeve
Engagement Officer



Ceilidh Jackson-Baker
Communications and
Engagement Manager



Claire Jacob
Head of
Communications and
Partnerships



Hannah Roddis
Head of Business
Development



Lizzi Testani
Chief Executive Officer
(on maternity leave June
2023 – May 2024)



Rachel Mohun
Senior Coordinator



Reem Khreisheh
Programme and
Operations Officer



Sarah Williamson
Communications and
Engagement Officer



Vicki Woolley
Head of Operations and
Projects (Interim Chief
Executive Officer from
June 2023 – May 2024)



Emma Geen
Climate and Disability
Programme Associate



Florence Grieve
Inclusive Transport
Advocate



Grace Erin Reid
Inclusion Associate

OUR ASSOCIATES

THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE SERVED AS DIRECTORS DURING 2023/24:

Barra Mac Ruairi, University of Bristol (alternate director Martin Parker)

Ben Bowskill, Sustrans

Bethan Jones, Resource Futures (alternate director Gwen Frost)

David Mellor, Business West: The Initiative (alternate director Jessica Vallentine)

Ian Barrett, Avon Wildlife Trust (alternate director Julie Doherty)

Jackie Davis, independent

Professor Jim Longhurst, University of the West of England, Bristol

Keith Hempshall, Centre for Sustainable Energy

Manu Maunganidze, Nature Youth Connection and Education (NYCE)

Matthew Jones, University of the West of England

Mohammed Saddiq, independent (Chair)

Tara Clee, Hargreaves Lansdown

Zoe Ruthven, Triodos Bank (alternate director Phillip Bate)

CATALYSING COLLECTIVE CITYWIDE ACTION TOWARDS A ZERO CARBON, SOCIALLY JUST AND NATURE-RICH BRISTOL

If you have any questions about membership or want to find out more about any of the Partnership's programmes, please contact the team: contact@bristolclimatenature.org



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Bristol Climate &
Nature Partnership

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