



HOTWELLS, HARBOURSIDE AND CLIFTONWOOD COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN



This plan, created by local people, is our first step in navigating a path through the challenges of climate change with hope and optimism.

It is vital that people living in Hotwells, Harbourside and Cliftonwood have a voice in the changes that are coming to shape the future of their area.

We have some great ideas and would like to be involved in shaping a fairer, greener neighbourhood for all our existing & future residents, human and more than human. We recognise that some of these ideas are common to communities across the city and we would like to find ways to work with other neighbourhoods so that Bristol is a truly connected city.



**THIS IS A SUMMARY OF OUR COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN
2025 THE FULL VERSION CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE LINK**

This plan was created with funding from the National Lottery Community Fund as part of the Community Climate Action Project. Head to the Bristol Climate & Nature Partnership website to find out more at bristolclimatenature.org/projects/community-climate-action

CONNECTED ACTIONS

SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS





Bristol has the ambitious goal of reaching net zero by 2030. This means getting rid of fossil fuels and other sources of emissions where possible, so that the amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere is equal to the amount being removed. Reaching net zero and becoming resilient to climate change will require major changes and the combined efforts of everyone in the city. It's a huge challenge but it is also an opportunity to do things differently and make positive changes for all the citizens of Bristol. This plan focuses on the important role that communities will play in reaching this goal. It aims to enable Hotwells, Harbourside & Cliftonwood to connect with each other for greater resilience, reduce our carbon footprints, support nature recovery and bring benefits to local people.

WHOSE PLAN IS THIS?

This plan has been created by the people who know our neighbourhood best - the people who live and work here. It builds on some of the great initiatives already happening across the two wards (Hotwells & Harbourside and Clifton) and is full of ideas for new actions which we can take on a local level.

OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

Using data from The Impact Tool, our carbon footprint report—produced with the Centre for Sustainable Energy—shows which everyday activities drive emissions in our community. This helps us focus on where we can act locally and where wider change is needed.

WHERE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS COME FROM		% of total average emissions from local households	
		Hotwells and Harbourside	Clifton
Food and drink we buy		21%	22%
Things we buy and services we use including waste		39%	39%
Gas and electricity in our homes		16%	23%
How we travel		24%	23%



HOW THE PLAN WAS FORMED

From August 2024 to February 2025 we organised events and spoke to people across our neighbourhood to understand what mattered to them.

We partnered with different local organisations to try and reach lots of different people and offered a **big community picnic, art making workshops, talks, cups of tea, drop-in conversations, mapping and Utopian Futures Workshop** at Watershed for creating ambitious and exciting ideas. We also shared the project and digital surveys through our newsletter, our partners, via our local councillor, Bristol 24/7 and on our community noticeboards.

We collected responses from over **150 participants of all ages and backgrounds**. By listening and carefully studying what people told us, we were able to create this plan.

PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS

The Hotwells, Harbourside and Cliftonwood community climate action plan is one of 17 plans written by communities across the city as part of the Community Climate Action Project, coordinated by Bristol Climate & Nature Partnership, with support from Centre for Sustainable Energy and Bristol City Council. The plan helps us map out our collective next steps, laying out actions we can take together as a community, as well as actions we are calling on government and other decision makers to take, to make our neighbourhood happier and healthier for the people who live here and for our planet.

Transport



What the community wants to see

- Safe and healthy traffic routes which prioritise children, active travel and disabled people
- Cheaper buses which stop in our neighbourhood rather than using it as a through route
- Development plans which consider active travel both during construction and preserving existing routes

Ideas from the community

- Do more Playing Out events and street parties for temporary road closures
- Campaign for reduced speed limits along A4 Portway, Merchants Road, Hotwell Road and throughout our neighbourhood
- Join city-wide campaigns for cheaper public transport fares
- Partner with the Climate & Disability Lead, Bristol City Council and tourism agencies to see if we can reduce speed limits and have more safe crossing points throughout the neighbourhood

Food



What the community wants to see

- Less food waste
- Local people have access to affordable healthy food which they can buy locally
- More food growing opportunities

Ideas from the community

- Pop-up schemes and cultural celebration community meals at various venues in the area
- A greengrocer on Hotwell Road
- Exploring food growing in meanwhile spaces
- Involve local food businesses
- A community food sharing scheme

Litter and waste



What the community wants to see

- A repair cafe in Hotwells including for electricals
- Improved waste collection services to avoid blocked pavements
- More information about reducing waste and opportunities for recycling

Ideas from the community

- Local organisations could host pop-up repair cafés to trial
- A community survey to see what locals would consider in terms of collection options
- Present information through a social event and public talks about waste streams to make it more interesting and visit other communities to see what they do- e.g. composting in Heart of BS13

Homes, buildings and Energy



What the community wants to see

- Support and information for adapting homes for energy efficiency
- New developments to respect and value our existing nature and community
- Support and information for cultural organisations/businesses to use their buildings for energy generation
- Minimising new buildings around the tidal river and harbour

Ideas from the community

- Identify existing information; share and showcase examples.
- Develop a community-led Neighbourhood Plan
- Do some biodiversity surveys to discover and 'value' existing green areas and tidal margins
- Engage with Western Harbour development plans and advocate for environmental sustainability and affordability of new housing and community services

Nature



What the community wants to see

- More nature habitats in communal and public spaces
- No more loss of mature trees to development and more planted trees to maximise biodiversity corridors
- Existing wildlife habitats and waterways valued and clean for humans and wildlife
- More insects and small birds returning to our neighbourhood

Ideas from the community

- A creative, enjoyable programme of monthly Green Action meet-ups which include nature walks, communal gardening, wildlife observation and citizen science, mend-n-make-do, training, social and food sharing events
- Establish places we can call 'mini nature reserves'
- Corporate volunteering/local business volunteering to help with nature projects
- Hold seasonal 'tree celebration' events
- Expand biodiversity on roadsides and verges

WHAT'S NEXT?



This is just the start and we hope the plan will grow and evolve with the community, encouraging collaboration within the local area and with partners across Bristol. The aim is that the plan gives people some ideas of the actions they can take, big and small, to make changes in our community.

Do you want to get involved in some of the community climate actions outlined in this plan?

Do you have an idea for something you want to get started?

Do you already take action that you want to others to get involved in?

Please connect by email: admin@hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk

Thank you to everyone who shared ideas, asked questions and added to the action plan!