

CLIMATE JUSTICE IS SOCIAL JUSTICE

Community Climate Action Plan



COMMUNITY SUMMARY

You can access the full plan on our website.

June 2025

INTRODUCTION

This plan is a living commitment to the earth and those who inhabit it. As a youth-led agency committed to supporting our community of underrepresented young creative thinkers to create social change, we see an urgent need for the sector, and society at large, to centre underrepresented young people's voices in conversations around climate change.

There can be no climate justice without social justice and we are committed to using our commissions, partnerships, agency and platform to advocate for those who are often left out of the conversation

This is one of five 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.

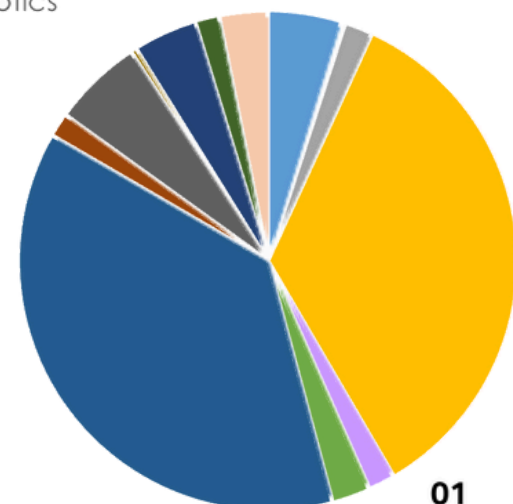
Rising Arts Agency is a social enterprise run by and for young people (aged 18-30) in Bristol. We advocate for sector and culture change through research projects, industry consultation and our creative agency services. We also support young artists aged 18-30 through a successful mentoring programme, professional development and leadership opportunities to achieve their ambitions. We see young people as leaders NOW not just in the future, and so our work is centred around supporting them to genuinely take up space as leaders, artists and producers in their own rights.

Our community has things to say, and cares deeply about how the city is run and a range of different causes that impact them directly.

Since spring 2024, we've been supported by Bristol Climate & Nature Partnership to develop a community climate action plan that reflects the needs and interests of our community - past, present and future. We know that currently our community is facing immense challenges and the intersectional nature of oppression makes our community's lived experiences of the climate crisis even more harrowing

OUR COMMUNITY'S CARBON FOOTPRINT

- Food & non-alcoholic drinks
- Alcoholic drinks, tobacco & narcotics
- Clothing & footwear
- Housing, fuel & power
- Household goods & services
- Health
- Transport
- Communication
- Recreation & culture
- Education
- Restaurants & hotels
- Miscellaneous goods & services
- Other



PRIORITIES & ACTIONS

HOW THIS PLAN WAS FORMED

MAY 2024

Learning & Mentoring Programme Launched

MAY - NOV 2024

Monthly climate workshops for the Rising team

AUG 2024

August of Rest & Climate Themed Board Away Day

OCT 2024

Let's Talk about Climate Justice Lab

Formed Climate Justice Steering Group

NOV 2024

Launched Climate Action survey for YP

JAN - MAY 2025

Developed plan & established priorities alongside community

This plan has been developed with our team, board, Climate Justice Steering Group and community. Over the course of 5 months, we ran events, workshops, labs, commissions and sense-making sessions to explore what our community demand from our city, and what action we can do ourselves. See our key priorities below:

TRANSPORT

- Increased public transport that's affordable and accessible
- Free / affordable travel passes for young creatives aged 16-30
- Raising awareness of local train stations through murals & creative campaigns to advocate for increased services
- Introducing carpooling / travel buddies for events
- Bike equipment donation points & community bike fixing

FOOD

- More access to shared and affordable local food for the community
- Turn disused council-owned restaurants into sustainable community kitchens
- Supporting food sovereignty in our community through education & workshops
- Develop a food waste policy for Rising

NATURE

- Greater citywide buy-in of Festival of Nature
- Upskill people in caring for nature, gardening & growing - queering ecology
- Accessible nature retreats for the community during August of Rest
- Maps for accessible natural spaces in the city
- Advocate for accessible safe parks for disabled people

WASTE / RESOURCES

- Rising to understand and improve how it manages and contributes to waste in the sector
- Do Equipment swaps / build an Equipment Library
- Develop an organisational waste policy

PRIORITIES & ACTIONS

We do not claim to be experts but committed students in the fight for real climate justice. We will try our best to straddle the tension between working with what we have, and the urgent need to dismantle systems that contribute to the immense oppression that we see here in Bristol, and globally.

We are excited to see the ways that this climate action plan shifts and grows with and alongside our community in years to come.

WANT TO BE INVOLVED?

If you're a member of our community, and would like to get more involved, get in touch with our Community Producer, Ellayah, at ellayah@rising.org.uk

If you're a prospective partner who wants to support this work and collaborate, get in touch with our Agency Producer, Sid, at sid@rising.org.uk

ENERGY

- Upskilling the community in energy-efficiency through creative workshops
- Community initiatives to generate sustainable energy (e.g an energy generating gym)
- Rising to support other organisations to change their energy usage through our training

HOUSING / BUILDINGS

- Support our community to occupy disused buildings and spaces
- Empower community to tackle unsustainable rental housing practices
- Write access to nature into local housing law
- Provide free spaces for people to eat, connect, create and refill
- Raising awareness around housing insecurity for young people in the city

BUSINESS / SKILLS

- Incentivising companies to employ young climate leaders
- Creating climate leadership opportunities for young people in creative spaces
- Creating resources and workshops about how to 'green your practice / business' and explore circular jobs
- Empower younger young people about creative green jobs

ADAPTATION / RESILIENCE

- Citywide campaigns by Rising's creatives about heat vulnerabilities and climate risks in the city
- Develop a climate relief fund for Rising's community - for joy and relief
- Rising to develop a 'climate disaster / events' policy for team and community

We would like to thank our community - as always - past, present and future for tirelessly fighting for and feeding into this. Your drive and energy makes this work a joy. We can't wait to fight alongside you. This is just the beginning...