Community Climate Action
Let's make change in Bristol



The future must be green and accessible

Bristol's Community of Disabled People's Community Climate Action Plan 2022

Updated in 2025

COMMUNITY FUND

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Updating of this plan was carried out by the Climate and Disability Forum (Liz Crow, Priyanca D'Souza, James Deane, Elizabeth Edgeworth, Phil Gingell, Ruth Nortey, Lynn Parfitt, Beth Richards, Sam Richards, Layla Taylor). The original plan was made through surveys and public conversations led by the Bristol Disability Equality Forum. Work led throughout by Emma Geen.

Summary

If it isn't **accessible** to you to read the whole plan or you don't have time please read this summary. It misses out a lot of the detail but will give you a good idea of the kinds of changes we are asking for. Or you can skip it and read the whole plan.

About the plan

This plan is an update of Bristol's Disabled people's **community climate action plan**. It is a plan about what the community wants to do to take action on **climate change**. It is also a plan about the changes the community wants the rest of the city to make so that Disabled people can be included in **climate change** action. Below are the changes the community want split into sections.

General

Making the changes in this document will not only need specific actions to be taken but a change in how people go about doing **climate change** work. This section talks about what these changes are.

Disabled people should be part of designing all the city's projects on **climate change** action**.** This should be done by meaningful and **accessible co-production.** (**Co-production** is ordinary people working together with experts to create something. They are given power to make decisions.) **Policy** and processes should be carried out in a fair and meaningful way. Currently projects decide whether they will make problems for communities by filling out a document called an **equality impact assessment** but these often aren't being done well enough.

Transport

Most communities in Bristol are experiencing difficulties with transport. Disabled people face all these problems and extra **accessibility** issues on top. Yet transport plays a role in opening up the city and allowing people to access work, shops, services and social connections. For Disabled people to take action in other areas of work on **climate action** then it will take getting transport right.

All new transport projects must be **accessible**. To make this happen **Disabled People's Organisations** and local Disabled people must be worked with through the whole process.

Roads closed to traffic must not make Disabled people's access to their neighbourhood and access to care worse. **Permanent exemptions** should be given where needed. (**Permanent exemptions** means that a group of people don't have to pay charges that everyone else has to.)

Public transport must be made more **accessible** if we want fewer people to drive. We need better bus routes, more **accessible** features on buses and for them to be **maintained** and used correctly. Stops and platforms need to be more **accessible**. Information about services needs to be improved. Staff need to be better trained and **discrimination** and **hate crime** stopped.

Supporting more Disabled people to walk and roll around the city means we need better pavements. They should be flat, have enough **dropped kerbs** and be clear of blockages liked parked cars, e-scooters and bins. **Accessible mobility equipment** must be easy to hire. Encouraging people not to drive also means reopening public toilets so people don't worry about needing to quickly get home to use the bathroom. Not everyone can cycle, but Disabled people who can and want to should be supported to have a good experience. This means support to access a bike that is **accessible** to them and **accessible** bike lanes and storage.

Even if we make all these changes, some Disabled people will still have to drive. These people should be supported to do so in a way that is as good for the planet as possible.

Taxis should also be more **accessible**. That means more **accessible** taxis should be available and better training for drivers.

Food

Many Disabled people experience **poverty**. This means getting food that is good for the planet can be hard. Projects are needed to support people to eat food that is affordable and good for the planet. Community meals should be **accessible** with options for people who can't leave the home to benefit from them. Food that would otherwise go to waste should be shared with Disabled people.

Supermarkets and food shops that sell food must be **accessible** for all Disabled people.

Changes to food should be **accessible** and not make difficulties for anyone's medical or **mobility** needs, including packaging and portion size.

Not all Disabled people want to or are able to grow their own food but those who want to should be supported to. This will take more **accessible** allotment spaces and community growing projects within neighbourhoods.



Housing

Lack of **accessible** housing is a big issue for many Disabled people. When a Disabled person doesn't have the access to housing they need then it makes problems through the whole of their life. It becomes hard to take actions that are good for the planet.

Making sure we have housing that meets the needs of Disabled people through the whole of their life will save a lot of materials and money that is needed for action on **climate change**.

25% of all new homes should meet **wheelchair user standard** and 90% should meet **accessible** and **adaptable standard** under the current **building regulations**. (**Wheelchair user standard** are rules that set out how to make a building **accessible** for wheelchair users. **Adaptable standard** are rules for making housing easy to change so that they meet the needs of the Disabled person who moves in.) Private, rented and **social housing** for Disabled people should be protected against disasters. It should also use energy in a good way.

Bristol City Council should make a **register** of **accessible** housing. This means people can know where housing is and what level of **accessibility** it has. This would also help **emergency services** when planning for disasters.

Social housing should have easy access nearby to all the services the people living there might need. For example, doctors, shops and parks. This will mean Disabled people who live there will be able to travel less and have less need for a car.

Lots of homeless people are Disabled people. We must make sure that they are given housing and cared for as **climate change** gets worse.

Nature

Access to nature is very important for keeping people safe and well as the planet gets hotter. It is also important for wellbeing. Work in this area can help look after nature as well as people.

Nature spaces should be made more **accessible**. This includes parks, water spaces, woodlands and other natural landscapes. **Accessibility** should include getting to, getting inside, using a space and the confidence to try using a space.

Even when Disabled people can get to nature they often don't have an equal experience. Nature spaces should be made so that Disabled people can get up close to nature and feel part of it. Volunteering experiences should welcome Disabled people to get involved and be **accessible**. Not all Disabled people are able to travel to nature spaces. So nature should be put into streets and the places Disabled people already visit.

Action should be taken to make Bristol's air cleaner. This should be done in a way that is **accessible** and fair for all communities.



Evoke Pictures

Energy

Energy advice and support should be **accessible** and think about different **access needs**.
The people energy projects support are often Disabled people but the organisations don't realise this.
Advice about energy should be truthful about the problems some technology can make for some Disabled people. Ideas of how to solve the problems should be given. Changes to energy in the home should be made so that the Disabled person can have full control where this is possible with their **impairment**.

When using new energy technology all different **access needs** should be thought about. For example, **smart meters** should be designed to be **accessible** for people with visual **impairments**.
Energy funding should be designed for Disabled people and **prioritise** them as an important community.

Waste

Disabled people should not be punished or judged for using things they have to. Disabled people often don't have the choice not to use things that are made from materials that are bad for the planet. For example, some Disabled people have to use medicines and health items that are wrapped in or made of plastic. These people shouldn't be made to feel guilty.

Assistive equipment and medical equipment should be reused by the NHS instead of being thrown away.
Recycling and waste should be **accessible** for all Disabled people. This includes support for people who can't recycle on their own. Disabled people who are unable to use recycling centres should be able to have their rubbish collected from home for free. **Mobility vehicles** shouldn't be charged for going to the recycling centre.

Economy, business, jobs and education

Disabled people should be a **priority** community to get jobs that are made to act on **climate change**. This means **accessible** training and teaching and making the jobs and workplaces **accessible**. **The West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Good Employment Charter** could be updated through **co-production** with Disabled people to take action on this. (**The West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Good Employment Charter** is a scheme that tries to get local organisations to improve for their employees.)

Making jobs better in Bristol will need action by the government. Local organisations should push for national government to make work schemes for Disabled people better.

Not all Disabled people can work. Changes should be made so that **voluntary** work is also valued and Disabled people are given something back. For example, shopping vouchers, training or food.
Disabled people should be taught about **climate change** from a young age. This will take **accessible** and interesting lessons.



Introduction

This plan is written in **Plain English** to make it **accessible** for more people. Where there are words or terms that some people might not know we have explained them in the **jargon buster** at the end of the document. Words that are in the **jargon buster** are in the document in bold. For some terms we have also explained them in brackets when we first use them.

Big changes are coming to Bristol to take action on **climate change**. Bristol has promised to stop the use of **harmful fuels** in the city by 2030. This means big changes to things that are important to Disabled people. For example changes to buses, jobs and energy. If carried out poorly, this could make new barriers for Disabled people. If done well it could make our lives better and our city fairer.

Many non-disabled people don't understand how many difficult barriers Disabled people face daily or how hard it is to access what support is on offer. When non-disabled people don't understand this it's impossible for them to make **climate change** projects in an **accessible** way. In this plan we try to help people see these difficulties and to think up ideas so that barriers can be avoided.

Our plan is the first **community climate action plan** by and for Disabled people in the UK. This says a lot about how often Disabled people are left out of work on **climate change**. We hope that our plan can help change this. If you live outside of Bristol, please do use the plan as a starting point for making a plan for your area if that would helpful. We need Disabled people to lead **climate change** plans like this everywhere. Please just make sure to say you were inspired by our plan and link back to our work.

Let's take action to make things better for both the planet and Disabled people.

History of the plan

In 2021 Disabled people in Bristol shared their ideas for how **climate change** action in Bristol should happen. These ideas were used by the Bristol Disability Equality Forum (BDEF) to make the first version of this plan. It was created through **co-production**. This means that Disabled people in Bristol were invited to work together with experts to make the plan. Our knowledge of how **climate change** and disability interact is growing all the time. So in 2024 and 2025, Bristol Climate & Nature Partnership (the Partnership) worked with a group of Disabled people to update the plan. This group was called the 'Climate and Disability Forum' (Forum for short). It was made up of ten Disabled people. They had experience of a wide variety of **impairments** and came from lots of different backgrounds. They went through the plan and added the ideas that were missing. Both the work by the Bristol Disability Equality Forum and the Partnership was led by the same Disabled woman called Emma Geen. So knowledge from the first version was carried through.

We are proud of the work but we understand that knowledge of disability and **climate change** is growing all the time. We hope that people are inspired by our plan but also know that it won't be the last word.



Evoke Pictures

Broader project

Both pieces of work were part of the Bristol Community Climate Action Project. This project aimed to help communities in Bristol to lower their use of **harmful fuels** and to make life better. The project worked with communities who experience barriers because of **climate change** and are often left out of conversations. Our project fed into the plans of other communities where possible to help get the changes we want to see. We were also supported by the research project Sensing Climate, two charities called Centre for Sustainable Energy and Sustrans, and Bristol City Council.

Next steps

Our work doesn't stop with the plan. We need to get people with power to support it and use its ideas when they make projects. We need Disabled people working with them and making sure that our needs aren't forgotten about. To make that happen we need Disabled people to raise their voices and non-disabled people to support us as **allies**. We need organisations to work closely with organisations of Disabled people to make sure projects are **accessible**. In the box to the right, we have included organisations you might want to work with.
The work on **climate change** and disability in Bristol has only just begun. Whoever you are, we hope that you can join us on this journey.

Disability organisations

Here are some Bristol Disabled people's organisations you might want to work with to make sure your work is **accessible**.
Disability Inc is part of the local disability charity WECIL. It is available to carry out access audits.
BDEF is a local disability charity.
Centre for Deaf and Hard of Hearing represents d/Deaf people in Bristol.
Bristol Sight Loss Council represents people with sight loss in Bristol.
Changes Bristol represents people with mental health difficulties in Bristol.
BRIL is a local disability charity.

Reading this plan

The plan is big. It had to be to fit everything in. If reading long documents isn't **accessible** for you then you might want to read the community summary instead. When reading this document it might also help to know that:

1. This document has a summary at the start.
2. We have pulled out a list of 'Top Ten **Priorities**'. The list shouldn't be seen as the most important ideas in the plan but is a place for people taking action to start.
3. Each **priority** has a list of actions. Since these are long we have put them at the end of the document. You can click on a **priority** to go to the list of actions. But you can also just read the **priorities**.

The plan is split into themes, for example energy, jobs and food. If your work is about one of these areas then you might want to focus on reading that section.

In each theme section there is a list of **priorities**. The **priorities** are what we think needs to happen. The **priorities** have lists of actions. Actions either add more detail to the **priorities** or describe what action we think needs to be taken to make the aims happen.

The **priorities** are split in to 'city owned' and 'community owned'. City owned are the changes we need to happen but can't be carried out by the community of Disabled people. For example making pavements better. They are the changes that we are asking the council and other people with power to make. Community owned are the **priorities** that we are working on as the community of Disabled people. They are either projects that Bristol Climate & Nature Partnership are working on as part of the climate and disability programme.

Climate change

We are facing a **climate change emergency**. The planet is getting dangerously hot and this is leading to lots of problems. In Bristol some of the worst-off areas will be the most at risk of **climate change.**
We need to quickly lower our use **harmful** fuels so we can keep people safe and slow the warming of our planet. These fuels are things like gas and petrol. They make gases that are trapping heat on Earth and making it dangerously warm. The gases are also bad for our health.

Most of the gas warming our planet up is being made by ten big companies. As ordinary people we shouldn't be guilty. However, our **society** does need to change to stop using **harmful fuels** and that means ordinary people need to make changes too. We believe that people with power should make the big changes so that it is the easiest option for Disabled people to make the choices that are good for the planet. For example, if buses were affordable and **accessible** then more people would want to use them.

Sadly **climate change** is already happening. We can slow it but we are still going to get dangerous weather like **heatwaves** in Bristol. We need to make changes so that we are safe when difficulties happen.

Some of the problems **climate change** will make in Bristol are likely to be:

1. Water levels will rise. This will lead to a lot of bad flooding of homes and businesses.
2. Summers will get hotter. This will lead to more **heatwaves** and make big health problems.
3. There will be less rain in the summer. This will mean we might have to use less water.

Weather changes and disasters will be bad for our food, health, homes, businesses, schools, communities and services. We must act now to make sure that we can stop these changes becoming really bad.

Top ten priorities

Our plan has a lot in it so we have created a list of top ten **priorities** to help people understand where to start. The **priorities** in this list were decided upon not because they're the most important but because they are the actions that would make the most change if they are put in place first. They are not in order of importance.

The **priorities** below all have detailed actions that explain how to go about putting them in place. These actions can be found later in the document in the relevant theme sections.

1. Disabled people's safety needs to be a top **priority** in planning for disasters. **(Read more in the being prepared as communities section.)**

2. Make sure all new homes are at least partly **accessible**. **(Read more detail in the housing section)**

3. Bristol City Council to make a **register** of **accessible** housing. **(Read more detail in the housing section)**

4. Ensure all new transport projects are **accessible**. **(Read more in the transport section)**

5. Make **public transport** more **accessible**. **(Read more in the transport section)**

6. Make sure that Disabled people are part of designing all the city's projects on **climate change** action. **(Read more in the general section)**

7. Make sure that Disabled people are a **priority** community to get new **green jobs**. (Read more in the business and skills section)

8. Support Disabled people to access **accessible** and affordable food that is good for the planet. (Read more in the food section)

9. Consider the needs of Disabled people when designing nature spaces for **heat resilience**. (**Heat resilience** is when changes are made so that people stay well and safe as the planet gets hotter.) (Read more in the nature section)

10. Value the work of Disabled people even if it is **voluntary**. (Read more in the business and skills section)



Priorities – General

Making the changes in this document will need people to change how they go about doing **climate change** work. This section talks about what these changes are.

City Owned

Priority 1: Make sure that Disabled people are part of designing all the city's projects on **climate change** action.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 1)

Priority 2: Policy and processes should be carried out in a fair and meaningful way (**Policies** are the rules that an organisation, council or government sets to say how something should be done)
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 2)

Priority 3: Support the national changes that will make local change possible.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 3)

Priority 4: When the council puts out **contracts** they should consider the **accessibility** of the services that are provided and if the service is acting in a way that is good for the planet. Services should support Disabled people over the long term.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 4)

Priority 5: Make sure that all work is **intersectional**. (**Intersectional** means that all the different types of being **disadvantaged** are thought about together. Many Disabled people might be from other groups that are treated unfairly. They might be homeless, gay, working class or Black as well as disabled.)

(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 5)

Community Owned

We will push for and support these changes as a community. We understand that it can be hard to do this work as Disabled people when our community is facing so many other problems. We understand that this can mean that not everyone can do this work and no one can do it all the time. However, we also understand that for our needs to be thought about in action on **climate change** that we need to join conversations and fight for our **human rights** when we can. If we don't have **representatives** in the room when plans and **policy** are designed then our needs won't be included.



Evoke Pictures

Priorities – Being Prepared as Communities

City Owned

Priority 1: Disabled people's safety needs to be a top **priority** in planning for disasters.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 1)

Priority 2: Disabled people's housing to meet the needs of Disabled people as weather gets hotter or cooler.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 2)

Priority 3: Work that is about preparing for disasters as communities should include Disabled people as a key group.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 3)

Priority 4. Communicate with Disabled people so they understand how to prepare for dangerous weather.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 4)



Priorities – Transport

City Owned

Priority 1. Ensure all new transport projects are **accessible.**
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 1)

Priority 2. Make **public transport** more **accessible.**
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 2)

Priority 3. Ensure Disabled people can travel more by walking and wheelchair by making pavements better.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 3)

Priority 4. Ensure Disabled people who have to drive can still do so. Support these people to drive in a way that is as good for the planet as possible.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 4)

Priority 5. Ensure Disabled people can drive less by opening **accessible** public toilets and Changing Places across the city.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 5)



Evoke Pictures

Priority 6. Ensure the Disabled people who want to cycle can have an **accessible** experience.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 6)

Priority 7. Ensure that taxis in Bristol meet the needs of Disabled people.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 7)

Priority 8. Ensure Disabled people can drive less by making sure affordable **mobility equipment** hire is available for those who need it (e.g. by supporting Bristol Shopmobility).
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 8)

Community Owned

The Climate and Disability programme hired an **inclusive** transport **advocate** to push for the aims in this section. They also made an **inclusive** transport **toolkit** to support these aims.



Priorities – Food

City Owned

Priority 1: Support Disabled people to get **accessible** and affordable food that is good for the planet.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 1)

Priority 2: Changes to food should be **accessible** and not make difficulties for anyone's medical or **mobility** needs.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 2)

Priority 3: Support Disabled people to grow their own food.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 3)

Community Owned

The Climate and Disability programme **commissioned** Redcatch Community Garden to run cookery and growing lessons for Disabled people. The frozen meals they make are being given to Disabled people in their local community.



Priorities – Nature

City Owned

Priority 1: Nature spaces should be made more **accessible**. This includes parks, water spaces, woodlands and other natural landscapes.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 1)

Priority 2: There should be an **equality** of experience for Disabled people in nature.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 2)

Priority 3: Consider the needs of Disabled people when designing nature spaces for **heat resilience**. For example, the **accessibility** of journeys to parks. (**Heat resilience** is making sure people stay safe and cities keep running when the weather gets very hot.)
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 3)

Priority 4: Action should be taken to make Bristol's air cleaner. This should be done in a way that is **accessible** and fair for all communities.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 4)

Community Owned

The Climate and Disability programme has **commissioned** Redcatch Community Garden to run growing lessons for Disabled people to get them into nature. Some of these lessons are about growing plants that clean the air.

Priorities – Waste

City Owned

Priority 1: Disabled people should not be punished or judged for using things they have to.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 1)

Priority 2: Make sure **assistive equipment** and medical equipment doesn't go to waste. It should be reused and repaired.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 2)

Priority 3: Ensure that recycling and waste is **accessible** for all Disabled people.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 3)

Priority 4: Ensure that recycling and waste doesn't make barriers for Disabled people.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 4)



Priorities – Energy

City Owned

Priority 1: Energy advice and support should be **accessible** and think about different **access needs**.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 1)

Priority 2: The use of new technologies should bear in mind different **access needs**.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 2)

Priority 3: Energy funding should be designed for Disabled people and **prioritize** them as an important community.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 3)



Community Owned

The Climate and Disability programme worked with the **Centre for Sustainable Energy** to research how to make the **retrofitting** of houses **accessible**. (**Retrofitting** is changing houses so they stay cool in summer and hot in winter).

Priorities: Business and Skills

City Owned

Priority 1: Make sure that Disabled people are a **priority** community to get new **green jobs**.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 1)

Priority 2: Value the work of Disabled people including **voluntary** work.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 2)

Priority 3: Educate Disabled people about **climate change**.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 3)



Priorities – Homes and Buildings

City Owned

Priority 1: Make sure all new homes are at least partly **accessible**.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 1)

Priority 2: Private, rented and **social housing** should be protected against disasters. It should also use energy in a good way.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 2)

Priority 3: Bristol City Council should make a **register** of **accessible** housing.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 3)

Priority 4: Social housing should have easy access nearby to all the services the people living there might need. For example, doctors, shops and parks. This will mean Disabled people who live there will be able to travel less and have less need for a car.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 4)



Priority 5: Make sure that the homes of Disabled people who are renting are **accessible** and good for the planet.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 5)

Priority 6: Disabled people who do not have a home should have their needs met, especially as **climate change** gets worse.
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 6)

Priority 7: Groups that work on housing should support work in this area to be good for both Disabled people and the planet. For example, **Civic societies** should act as **allies** for Disabled people. (**Civic societies** are organisations that work to improve buildings and protect their history.)
(Go to the page with list of actions for Priority 7)



Closing thoughts

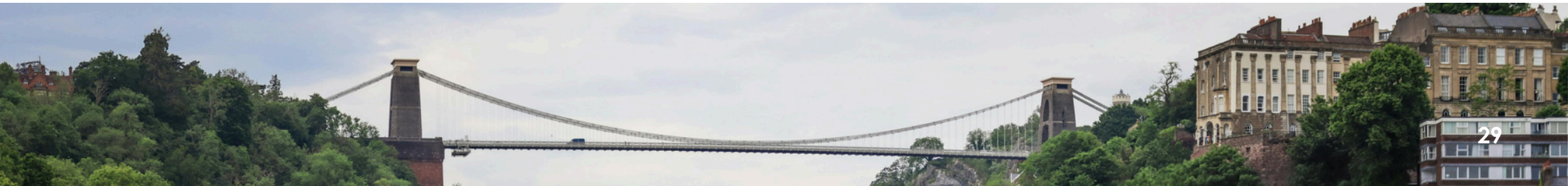
Working on this project has shown how important it is to listen to Disabled people on **climate change**. We have a lot to gain and a lot to lose when it comes to action to protect the planet. Whether the changes coming to Bristol are good or bad will be decided by how they are made. We ask everyone acting on **climate change** in Bristol to use this plan to make sure that the changes are good and **accessible**.

We want to finish by saying that many Disabled people we talked to have very little trust in those with power. One of the comments we were told most often was "you're dreamers". We understand this view. But is being a dreamer bad? To dream is to look at 'what is' and see 'what could be'. The 'what is' we have right now is bad both for Disabled people and the planet. If we want a future that Disabled people can be safe and happy then Bristol has to dream and make that dream real.

Our plan then is two asks:

1. To people with power in Bristol, please show us that we can trust you to make the changes needed. Show us that our aims are yours. We will need **allies** with time, access to money and who can make things happen. We really want to work with you.
2. To Disabled people, we can make our city more **accessible** if lots of us come together to push for it. We need your help to do this. Let's make Bristol better.

If you want to read about the actions that go with each priority then read on.



List of Actions – General

Priority 1: Make sure that Disabled people are part of designing all the city's projects on **climate change** action.

1. Make a Disabled people's Climate Action Plan Group who the local councils should be **accountable** to when making their plans. (**Accountable** means they should listen carefully to the group and always try to do what the group suggests.) This would be a group of people who **represent** all the different types of Disabled people in the community. Bringing projects to them should not be a **tick box exercise**. Projects should be brought to the group early enough that meaningful changes can be made and the group's **access needs** met.
2. **Co-production** should be used when designing projects. (**Co-production** is ordinary people working together with experts to create something. They are given power to make decisions.) Similar to the above point, **co-production** should not be a **tick box exercise**. Time and money should be given to the work to make this possible. The **co-production advisory policy** can be used as an example of best practice. (The **co-production advisory policy** is a document that says how **co-production** should be done by Bristol City Council.)
3. **Co-production** and **consultation** should be truthful about the power that people have to **influence** a project and who has the final decision-making power.
4. Many people who are disabled by **society** don't think of themselves as a Disabled person. For example many autistic people. This means they don't get support that they would be allowed. Sometimes this is a cultural issue but also often because there isn't a lot of understanding about disability and because a lot of judgement is put on Disabled people. Changes that are made for Disabled people around **climate change** should consider the needs of the people who don't yet understand themselves to be disabled. Part of this work is helping people to understand that they're disabled and can access support. Either way, making **society** more **accessible** will make it better for everyone.

Priority 2: Policy and processes should be carried out in a fair and meaningful way (**Policies**: The rules that an organisation, council or government sets to say how something should be done)

1. **Reasonable adjustments** should always be made.
2. When making big changes in the city there is a **duty** to always do an **equality impact assessment** before a project is carried out. This work should be done by a Disabled person or someone with a good understanding of the needs of the community of Disabled people. (**Equality impact assessment**: This is a piece of paperwork that has to be done to see who could be treated unfairly by a project.)
3. People should always hold in mind that different people need different support to act in a way that is good for the planet and nature.
4. Disabled people care about **climate change** but the **inaccessibility** of **society** and difficulties they face mean that taking action is often not possible. Many of the changes that need to happen are big changes that no one person has the ability to make. Instead of always putting the **responsibility** on individual people to take action in their own lives there should be a focus on changing how our **society** works.



Priority 3: Support the national changes that will make local change possible.

1. We are aware when writing this plan that many of the changes we want will need a change in how politics is done nationally as well as locally. We will need services to be owned by the public again, more money being given to local councils, more money being put towards services, more protection for **human rights** and a stop to cuts for Disabled people. Though these changes aren't in the power of many people to make happen, we ask people to show support for them when they can.
2. Without **welfare benefits** many Disabled people will struggle to be part of **society**, have a job, and manage day to day living. Disabled people won't have the time or energy to think about or take action on **climate change** if support is taken away. Disability cuts are an unacceptable attack on the community of Disabled people. It is already very hard to get **accessibility** support like blue badges or **PIP** (**PIP** stands for Personal Independence Payments and is a **welfare benefit** that Disabled people can get). Accessing support needs to be made easier, not harder. We ask everyone who reads this plan to be part of standing up for the community of Disabled people when it is under threat.

Priority 4: When the council puts out **contracts** they should consider the **accessibility** of the services that are provided and if the service is acting in a way that is good for the planet. Services should support Disabled people over the long term.

Priority 5: Make sure that all work is **intersectional**. (This means that all the different types of being **disadvantaged** are thought about together. For example, many Disabled people might be from other groups that are treated unfairly. They might be homeless, gay, working class or Black as well as disabled.)

List of Actions – Being Prepared as Communities

Priority 1: Disabled people's safety needs to be a top **priority** in planning for disasters.

1. Disabled people's **human rights** should be protected at all times. Disabled people must never be thought of as the **acceptable sacrifice** as happened with **COVID**. This means that our lives should be seen as being as important as non-disabled people's lives.
2. Disabled people should be one of the groups rescued first during **evacuations** to recognise the extra time that can be needed to be able to **evacuate** safely and **accessibly**.
3. **The Avon Resilience Forum** should work with a paid group of Disabled people, with a wide range of **impairments**, to ensure that Disabled people's needs are met in every step of **evacuations**. (**The Avon Resilience Forum** is the organisation responsible for preparing for **emergencies** in the Avon area). This includes communication, **warning system**s, **evacuation**, transport to a place of safety, the stay there and returning home afterwards, and individual and community recovery. This work should include practice **evacuations** with Disabled people. These practices must be reviewed by the Disabled people taking part and used to improve how **evacuations** are carried out.
4. **Emergency** teams must be trained on how to **evacuate** Disabled people safely and respectfully. This includes **evacuating** their key equipment. For some Disabled people equipment like their wheelchair can feel like part of their body and they are put in a very difficult and uncomfortable situation if they don't have it.
5. Support should be given to Disabled people to help them make a **personal preparedness plan**, **evacuation plans**, and make their own **grab bag**. (A **personal preparedness pla**n is a plan of what to do in an **emergency**. An **evacuation plan** is a plan that details clear information about the person's **access needs** and what support will be required in an **evacuation**. A **grab bag** is a bag of everything a person needs to leave quickly in an **emergency**.) Support should be given to update plans if access needs change. This work should be linked into the services that Disabled people already use, like **caregivers**, and their family and community.

Priority 1: Disabled people's safety needs to be a top **priority** in planning for disasters. (continued)
6. **Community Places of Safety** and **cool spaces** and **warm spaces** must be very **accessible**. (**Cool spaces** and **warm spaces** are where people can go to stay cool or warm during difficult weather. **Community Places of Safety** are places in the local neighbourhood where people can gather to be safe when something dangerous like a flood happens.) This should include level access, an **accessible** toilet, a **hearing loop**, a quiet space that is just for this purpose, **accessible** seating, places to lie down in the day, **accessible** lighting, and access to **BSL interpreting**. Equipment Disabled people might need should be provided. For example, **noise-cancelling headphones** and **sensory toys** and back up **mobility equipment** for when it has been lost or damaged.
7. The staff at **Community Places of Safety**, **cool spaces** and **warm spaces** should have a good understanding of disability and how to work with Disabled people. Ideally, this will be supported by training from **Disabled people-led organisations**.
8. **Community Places of Safety**, **cool spaces** and **warm spaces** should be within travelable distance for all Disabled people in Bristol. **Accessible** transport should be on offer to get Disabled people to and from them.
9. **Community Places of Safety**, **cool spaces** and **warm spaces** should be advertised to Disabled people so that everyone knows where their nearest one is.
10. A clear list of Disabled people who will need support during disasters should be made and held by **emergency** services. This should include details of who has a **personal preparedness plan**.
11. Services that Disabled people use should work with Disabled people to get them on **priority services registers**. (**Priority services registers** are lists water and energy companies hold that tells them which customers would be at risk when there is a power cut or water is cut off.)
12. Back up energy should be in place for people who have equipment that is important for their health so that it can still be used during power cuts. Research should be done to understand the best way of doing this.

Priority 2: Disabled people's housing to meet the needs of Disabled people as weather gets hotter or cooler.

1. **Social housing** should be properly **retrofitted** to make sure that Disabled people can stay well and safe in hot summers and cold winters. (**Retrofitting** is changing a house so it costs less to keep it warm or cool.)
2. When finding **social housing** for Disabled people, the person's needs during disasters should be thought about. For example, a Disabled person who finds heat difficult should not be given a top floor flat. Or someone with **mobility** needs should be given a bottom floor flat in case lifts break. People who couldn't get away quickly in a disaster should never be given a flat that could flood. This should include thinking about if they are close enough to friends and family who can help in disasters.
3. **Social housing** should not be built in areas that are likely to experience **climate change** disasters, for example floods or the hottest parts of the city. This should include areas that are likely to experience these problems in the future as **climate change** gets worse.
4. **Temporary housing** rules should be changed so that people are allowed to stay out of their flat for the night when it is too hot or cold or unsafe to stay in.



Priority 3: Work that is about preparing for disasters as communities should include Disabled people as a key group.

1. All local community projects should ensure they work with local Disabled people with a range of **lived experiences**.
2. Grants and support should be given to disability groups and organisations to ensure that they are strong and able to cope when disasters happen. Funders should make sure that money is being used correctly and offer extra support to these organizations.
3. Funding should also be given to neighbourhood organisations to do the work with local Disabled people. This work should be done by **co-production**.
4. **Asset-based community development** should support the growth of networks of Disabled people who can support each other in difficult times. (**Asset-based community development** is where communities are supported to build on their strengths to make projects that are good for the community). Enough money should be given for **reasonable adjustments**. This should be given as a separate pot of money so it is protected.
5. **Asset-based community development** should also work to build joy, wellbeing and a feeling of being valued for Disabled people. This will help the community stay strong and connected when things get difficult.
6. Trees and other cooling projects should be placed in areas where lots of Disabled people live.
7. Public places that are important for staying safe in hot weather should have good **accessibility**. For example parks should always be **accessible**.
8. The journeys from these places to where Disabled people live should also be designed so that they are **accessible**, including during hot weather. For example, the route from a Disabled person's house to a park should be **accessible** to walk or roll along even when the weather gets very hot.

Priority 4: Communicate with Disabled people so they understand how to prepare for dangerous weather and stay safe.

1. **Accessible** communication projects should be carried out so that Disabled people understand the risks of **climate change**, what they can do to stay safe and what there is in their local community that they can use to stay safe and well. This should include **accessible translations** including **Easy Read**, **BSL** and audio versions of information. These should also include language **translations** for areas where lots of people speak languages other than English. Other **translations** should be made available when asked for.
2. Organisations should link up Disabled people to information about being prepared for disasters.
3. Public meetings about preparing for disasters should have a high standard of **accessibility**. For example they should be in **Plain English** and have **BSL interpreters**.



List of Actions – Transport

Priority 1: Ensure all new transport projects are **accessible**.

1. Work with **Disabled People's Organisations** and local Disabled people from the beginning of projects and throughout their design, **installation** and review. Ensure that local Disabled people can still easily access all the services they need to, like GPs and shops.
2. **Commitment** to projects being **accessible** should be written into project **contracts**. Teams working on these projects must reach out to **Disabled People's Organisations** and local Disabled people instead of expecting people to come to them with problems.
3. Make sure Roads closed to traffic do not make Disabled people's access worse. Have parking for Disabled people who can't walk very far nearby that is within 20m.
4. Give blue badge holders, **vehicles with a disabled tax class**, carers, **personal assistants, caregivers**, parents of children with a severe disability **permanent exemptions**. (**Permanent exemptions** means that a group of people won't ever have to pay charges that everyone else has to.)
5. Work with carer organisations and **caregivers** to ensure that Disabled people can still access affordable care when projects are making it harder to drive around.
6. Projects mean that some people will need to buy new cars. Do not charge or stop Disabled people from driving until they can buy a new car.
7. Make sure car-free areas are made and **enforced** so that only push bikes and **pedestrians** can use them.
8. Have clear areas (**visual and audio aides**) to show which areas are for cars, which are for push bikes and **e-scooters**, and which areas are for **pedestrians** only. This will help people to know which areas they can move safely in.

Priority 2: Make **public transport** more **accessible**.

1. Have more bus routes, with more regular and reliable buses. Buses should run later into the evening. Areas with lots of **social housing** should always have good bus routes.
2. Have at least two wheelchair spaces on all buses and **priority seating** for other Disabled, older and pregnant people.
3. Disabled people's bus passes should be able to be used 24/7. Find funding to make sure this continues.
4. Improve the **accessibility** of bus stops and railway stations. For example, make sure there is seating and enough covered space for all Disabled people, including wheelchair users. Bus stops should be usable in all types of weather. The shelters should be made from materials that don't overheat.
5. Make sure that train stations have ramp access on both sides and that there is no gap between the train and platform.
6. Make sure that all buses have ramps.
7. Improve the **accessibility** of information. This includes online, at bus stops and train stations, and on buses. For example, all buses should have screens with the journey information and **announcements** of bus stops. **Announcements** should always be on to meet **access needs**.
8. Improve **accessibility** training for public transport staff. This should always include the correct working of ramps. The training should be given by a Disabled person.
9. Bus scheduling should allow enough time for passengers to sit down before buses drive off.
10. Offer easier ways for reporting **ableist** and **disablist** behaviour by **public transport** staff. Display this information on buses, bus stops and company websites and flyers.
11. Improve action against staff and members of the public who **discriminate** and do **hate crime**. Report back to the person who has experienced the problem so they know what action has been taken and can ask for more serious action if needed.

Priority 2 (continued)

12. Before bus routes are stopped, local Disabled people should be talked to in order to understand the impact.
13. All local **public transport** organizations should have in their training and **policies** that **priority** for space and seats should be given to wheelchair users. **Policies** should say that other passengers should be moved from these spaces and it is the **responsibility** of bus drivers to make this happen.
14. **Public transport** vehicles should be **maintained** to make sure they stay **accessible**. For example, ensuring ramps are working and stopping unnecessary noise that could cause sensory issues.
15. Bus lanes should be **maintained** to ensure the journey is smooth and to stop pain and discomfort that can be caused by issues like potholes.
16. There should be different kinds of passes and **discounts** that make it easy and affordable to make a journey using different types of transport for each part. For example using a buses and a scooter in one trip.
17. Get rid of **floating bus stops** which are dangerous for some Disabled people using buses. (**Floating bus stops** are when there is a cycle path behind the bus stop.)



Priority 3: Ensure Disabled people can travel more by walking and wheeling by making pavements better.

1. Make pavements less bumpy and of an even **camber**. (**Camber** is the angle of something. When the **camber** is wrong it is hard for wheelchairs not to slide towards the road.)
2. Pavements should be clear of things that could block or trip people. For example, overgrown bushes, recycling bins, tree roots, building work and recycling bins.
3. Train bin and recycling collection teams so that they understand how to return bins in way that doesn't block pavements.
4. Make sure that there are enough **dropped kerbs** and that these meet standards on **gradients**. All **dropped kerbs** should have double yellow lines so that cars don't block them.
5. Make sure that tree planting in streets doesn't make pavements bumpy, too narrow or difficult to travel around.
6. Make sure that rules about keeping **e-scooters**, cyclists, vans and cars off pavements and **dropped kerbs** are followed. People who break the rules should be fined. Members of the public should be given ways to report rules being broken.
7. **E-scooter** parking spaces should be off the pavement on in **parking docks**.
8. **E-scooters** and e-cars should make a sound so people know they are coming.
9. **Accessible e-scooters**, trikes and bikes should be available and easy to access. The app for hiring them should be **accessible** and easy to use.
10. Make the public aware of how their actions could be making pavements **inaccessible** for Disabled people. For example, when parking an **e-scooter**, the app should tell people how to park the **e-scooter** in a way that won't make barriers.
11. Stop businesses from putting tables and chairs on pavements where there is not enough room for wheelchairs to pass. Separate the seating area from the area for pedestrians by using solid objects like railings.

Priority 3 (continued)
12. Get rid of shared pathways and make separate cycle paths that are safe for cyclists so they don't need to cycle on pavements.
13. There should be charging points for wheelchairs and **mobility** scooters across the city. For example at **mobility hubs** or on **public transport**. (**Mobility hubs** are places where different types of transport meet. For example where someone gets off a bus and hires a scooter).
14. Loading bays should only be used at specific times and this should be **enforced**.

Priority 4: Ensure Disabled people who have to drive can still do so. Support these people to drive in a way that is as good for the planet as possible.

1. Disabled people should be supported to buy electric vehicles and make **adaptations** to them to meet their **access needs**. For example, when big projects like **Clean Air Zones** are introduced, funds should be written into the project to support Disabled people to access enough funds for an electric car that meets their needs. (**Clean Air Zones** are parts of the city that people with older cars have to pay to go through.)
2. Electric car **charging points** should be **accessible**.
3. More Disabled parking bays should be added to the city centre and high streets. This will mean people drive less far and support local businesses. Their use should be **enforced** so that non-disabled people don't use them.
4. Allow blue badge holders, **vehicles with a disabled tax class**, carers, **personal assistants**, **caregivers**, parents of children with a severe disability to use **bus gates**. (**Bus gates** are parts of the road that are just for buses and most people aren't allowed to drive on.)

Priority 5: Ensure Disabled people can drive less by opening **accessible** public toilets and **Changing Places** across the city.

Priority 6: Ensure the Disabled people who want to cycle can have an **accessible** experience.

1. Make sure bike hire places offer some trikes and **recumbent bikes** at an affordable price.
2. Make bike lanes **accessible**. This includes being step free, wide and smooth enough for trikes and less confident cyclists, and only having gates and **bollards** on bike lanes that are **accessible** for all Disabled users.
3. Offer bike grants to Disabled people who need to buy or adapt an **accessible** bike.
4. Bike parking should be close to buildings. Make sure the parking has **accessible** options. For example, for people who don't have strength to lift their bikes and for people who have **adapted bikes** & trikes.
5. Ensure **public transport** staff understand that they need to **accommodate** putting ramps down for Disabled cyclists when asked for.
6. Offer charging stations in public places for **adapted bikes** and trikes.

Priority 7: Ensure that taxis in Bristol meet the needs of Disabled people.

1. Taxi drivers should be trained in **accessibility**. This training should be given by Disabled people.
2. Make sure taxi drivers know not to use a blue badge when there's not a Disabled person in the taxi. This should be **enforced**.
3. Encourage and support taxi companies to provide some **accessible** taxis.

Priority 8: Ensure Disabled people can drive less by making sure affordable **mobility** equipment-hire is available for those who need it (e.g. by supporting Bristol Shopmobility).

List of Actions – Food

Priority 1: Support Disabled people to get **accessible** and affordable food that is good for the planet.

1. Food projects should understand that they might not always be an option for some people's conditions, **impairments** or living situation.
2. Community meals should be as **accessible** as possible. For example, they should be held in **accessible** venues and this should be made clear when advertising. Information about the menu and ingredients should be shared ahead of time so that people can feel confident that they will be able to take part and have their needs met.
3. Food projects should offer delivery for people who can't access it in person.
4. Food projects should make sure to advertise their work to Disabled people who need them most. They should also do outreach to build confidence and so people understand that they can join in. For example, more Deaf people will join food clubs if other members of their community encourage them to go along.
5. There should be the option to pack up and take away food. This means Disabled people can take part but wait to eat until they are at home. This is important for the health and comfort of some Disabled people.
6. Carers and other services for Disabled people should tell people about food projects they can use as part of their work.
7. Supermarkets and other shops that sell food must be **accessible** for all Disabled people. For example making sure that wheelchair users can reach all the shelves and self-check outs are **accessible**. Food that is good for the planet should be put in one of the most **accessible** places within the shop.

List of Actions – Food

Priority 1 (continued)

1. Work in this area must understand that many Disabled people have less money so food should be affordable. When this isn't possible schemes should be setup to support Disabled people without much money access the food. For example businesses could have **pay-it forward schemes** so that people with money can choose to pay extra to help Disabled people to access food that is good for the planet.
2. Food that would go to waste should be shared with Disabled people. For example, food left over from allotments could be given to local Disabled people. People should be able to have it cut up into pieces before it is given to them if this is helpful.
3. **Community fridges** can be used to share food that would go to waste. These should be in **accessible** venues.
4. Food should be labelled so that people with **food intolerances** can know it's safe for them. This includes if it's grown and cooked locally such as on a small farms.

Priority 2: Changes to food should be **accessible** and not make difficulties for anyone's medical or **mobility needs**.

1. Make sure that food options remain open, allowing people with dietary needs, allergies, **eating disorders/disordered eating** and cultural needs to find food that meets their needs. For example, people who need food that is already peeled or chopped up should still be able to access it even when businesses are using less packaging.
2. Conversations and projects on food should raise public awareness around **access needs** so that Disabled people aren't punished for using options that some people might think of as wasteful, such as plastic straws and ready-peeled food.

Priority 2 (continued)
3. Projects that provide low or no cost home delivery of local and **accessible** food without plastic or wasteful packaging should be encouraged.
4. Where action can be taken to make packaging more **accessible** and good for the planet, this should be done.
5. Community organizations should link local people up who can and would like to cook together. For example, some **people with energy limiting conditions** would find it helpful and enjoyable to cook for each other.
6. Food projects should support the sharing of different experiences and recipes for the community of Disabled people. This will grow people's understanding of **accessible** and affordable options that are good for the planet.
7. Disabled people are often in living situations where they need to buy smaller portions. Buying in smaller amounts shouldn't cost more. This should be the case for the cost of the food and the delivery.

Priority 3: Support Disabled people to grow their own food.

1. Some Disabled people won't be able to or want to grow their own food even with support. But the Disabled people who could and want to should be given the access and support to do so.
2. Every allotment site should make at least 10% of their allotments **accessible** for Disabled people. This includes accessing the site from the entrance.
3. Food growing projects should include Disabled people who don't have gardens and can't join community growing projects. For example, window boxes could be given to Disabled people who want one or there could be food growing in parks.

List of Actions – Nature

Priority 1: Nature spaces should be made more **accessible**. This includes parks, water spaces, woodlands and other natural landscapes.

1. **Accessibility** should include the **access chain** of getting to, getting inside and using a space. (**Access chain** is all parts of the journey needed to access something.) This includes physical access, bus routes to parks, safety, information, toilets, play spaces for everyone, parking and **accessible** paths, benches, water fountains, and shelters. We can't cover the full detail in this plan but the charity Your Park's 'Not Just a Checkbox' report should be read for more detail.
2. Support should be given to projects and organizations doing this work. Organizations working together should be encouraged.
3. There should be **accessible** nature spaces in Bristol that give a variety of experiences. For example, there should be an **accessible** local wood.
4. Disabled people should be supported to understand that nature spaces are for them and to be given the confidence to access them.



Priority 1 (continued)
5. When housing is built on parks and nature spaces the planning should make sure that Disabled people in the area still have **accessible** nature spaces close to them.

Priority 2: There should be an **equality** of experience for Disabled people in nature.

1. Disabled people should be allowed to get up close to nature and feel part of it. For example, **accessible** paths should allow Disabled people to go right up to flowers and trees.
2. Nature volunteering experiences should welcome Disabled people getting involved. There should be a variety of ways that different people with different **access needs** can join in. For example, **Friends of groups** should support Disabled people to volunteer in parks. Disabled people should be trusted to know what they can do and can't do. They should only be given disability related volunteering if they want that. **Reasonable adjustments** should always be in place for volunteering.
3. Not all Disabled people are able to travel to nature spaces. So nature should be put into streets and places Disabled people already visit. For example at health centres and supermarket car parks. This will also help with mental health and keeping communities cool.
4. Communities and the local councils should organise volunteers to help look after the gardens of Disabled people. This work should be done in a way that makes the gardens good for nature and keeping the area cool.

Priority 3: Consider the needs of Disabled people when designing nature spaces for **heat resilience**. For example, the **accessibility** of journeys to parks. (**Heat resilience** is when changes have been made so that people stay well and safe as the planet gets hotter.)

Priority 4: Action should be taken to make Bristol's air cleaner. This should be done in a way that is **accessible** and fair for all communities.

1. The **Clean Air Zone** should be **accessible** and fair for all communities. Support should be given for people to get Blue Badges. (**Clean Air Zones** are parts of the city that people with older cars have to pay to drive through.) **Permanent Exemptions** should be given to **vehicles with a disabled tax class**, carers, caregivers, **personal assistants**, **caregivers**, children with a severe disability. (**Permanent Exemptions** are when a person doesn't have to pay to drive through the Clean Air Zone). This **accessibility** includes making **public transport** better.
2. The city should move towards using fewer **wood burning stoves.** But this should only be done once the people using them because of **energy poverty** have affordable and **accessible** heating.
3. Projects to lower the number of cars on the road should be put into place but these should always allow Disabled people to have access. For example **Liveable Neighbourhoods** should make sure Disabled people can still drive to their homes and the shops, and park nearby. (**Liveable Neighbourhoods** are streets where the use of cars is reduced.) These projects should be designed with local Disabled people.
4. There should be more Blue Badge parking close to shops and services.

List of Actions – Waste

Priority 1: Disabled people should not be punished or judged for using things they have to.

1. **Campaigns** about lowering waste should be written so that they don't judge or blame Disabled people for using things that aren't good for the planet. Disabled people often don't have the choice not to use these things. For example, some Disabled people have to use medicines and health items that are wrapped in or made of plastic to stay well. These people shouldn't be made to feel guilty when they don't have a choice.
2. People working on these issues should educate themselves about the needs of Disabled people so that they don't judge or punish Disabled people by mistake. This education should take place before planning projects and **campaigns**. They should work with Disabled people

Priority 2: Make sure **assistive equipment** and medical equipment doesn't go to waste.

1. Offer free training and support for Disabled people to be able to fix their own equipment.
2. The NHS should collect and reuse equipment that is no longer needed. Where equipment can't be reused it should be recycled.
3. **Accessible** options should be created for getting rid of single-use medical items such as **blister packs** or hearing aid batteries. (**Blister packs** is a type of packaging for pills). For example carers could take these to pharmacies for recycling.
4. **Libraries of Things** should have equipment Disabled people need like **mobility aids**. (**Libraries of Things** are places people can borrow equipment from.) This will allow Disabled people to borrow **mobility aids** to try out or use temporarily like a library lends out books.

Priority 3: Ensure that recycling and waste is **accessible** for all Disabled people.

1. Disabled people who struggle to recycle should be given support to do it. This includes all **access needs**, not just **mobility** ones. For example, support for people who might not have energy to do recycling. Details about how to use this service should be shared widely and made **accessible**. When carers and councils fail to do this properly community organisations should set up 'bin buddy' schemes, where neighbours support Disabled people in their street to recycle.
2. When there are changes to services, for example changes to how often waste is collected, **accommodations** must be put in place so that this doesn't become unpleasant for Disabled people who have **hygiene waste**. For example people shouldn't have to have **incontinence pads** smelling in the bins for a long time.
3. When there are changes to services these should be clearly communicated. It should be easy to contact someone to talk about the changes. Direct contact should be made with Disabled people who could find the changes difficult.
4. **Social housing** should have bins in blocks of flats. These should be designed with Disabled people to make them **accessible**.
5. Soft plastic should be collected with other household recycling so Disabled people don't have to carry it to supermarkets.
6. Disabled people who are unable to use tips should be able to have their rubbish collected from home for free.
7. Tips should have people on hand to help people unload.
8. People with Blue Badges should be able to visit the tip without a booking.
9. **Permits** should not be needed for wheelchair **accessible** vehicles to visit the tip even if they are bigger than the 1.52 metres rule.

Priority 4: Ensure that recycling and waste doesn't make barriers for Disabled people.

1. Educate the public on how to put their recycling and waste bins out so they don't block pavements in ways that are difficult or dangerous for Disabled people.
2. Train bin people how to put back recycling and waste bins so they aren't difficult or dangerous for Disabled people. Make sure they are given enough time to do this properly when they are doing the work.
3. When repeated blocking of pavements is reported to the council this should be followed up with serious action. For example warnings or fines.



List of Actions – Energy

Priority 1: Energy advice and support should be **accessible** and think about different **access needs**:

1. All energy organisations should think about Disabled people as one of the most important communities to talk to and support. Often many of the people they support are Disabled people but the organizations don't realise this.
2. Advice about energy should be truthful about the problems some technology can make for some Disabled people. Ideas of how to solve the problems should be given.
3. Energy projects should think about the extra **access needs** people might have and include **accessible** examples. For example, when making **demonstration homes** there should be one that is **accessible**.
4. **Information centres** and energy **champions** should be trained in **accessibility**. Energy **champions** should go to the places where the Disabled people who are facing the biggest difficulties can be found.
5. Disabled people should be supported through energy changes to their homes from the beginning to end of the work.
6. Changes to energy in the home should be made so that the Disabled person can have full control, where this is possible with their **impairment**. For example, switches, controls and **fuse boxes** should be installed where Disabled people can reach them instead of assuming that a **caregiver** will take control of this for them.
7. Where possible, there should be the option to carry out energy work at the same time as other support being given to Disabled people. For example, social workers should be given training so they can support energy needs. This should be done in a **light touch** way.

Priority 2: The use of new technologies should bear in mind different **access needs**:

1. When using new energy technology all different **access needs** should be thought about. For example, **smart meters** should be designed to be **accessible** for people with sight **impairments**.
2. When choosing energy technologies for public spaces **accessible** options must be chosen. For example, LED lights flickering can be difficult for some Disabled people and make spaces **inaccessible**.
3. New city-wide energy systems, like **heat networks**, should be **accessible**. (**Heat networks** are when pipes under streets carry heat to a whole neighbourhood.) They must be easy to understand and use and have a simple single point of contact to deal with any issues.

Priority 3: Energy funding should be designed for Disabled people and **prioritise** them as an important community.

1. Where possible, **influence** and power should be used to make changes so that Disabled people shouldn't have to pay for the extra energy costs that come from being disabled. For example, encouraging the UK Government to make new grants and to support **Universal Basic Income**. (**Universal Basic Income** is where everyone of a working age gets paid enough money to live on whether they have a job or not.)
2. The extra energy costs from greater use of energy to live safely in hot or cold weather should be considered when deciding who to **prioritise** for energy projects and grants.

List of Actions – Business and Skills

Priority 1: Make sure that Disabled people are a priority community to get new **green jobs**.

1. Work with **recruiters**, job creators, trainers, and communities to get rid of barriers and help disabled people to access meaningful jobs that are created around **climate change.** For example, **recruitment** processes should be much simpler and more **accessible**.
2. Offer Disabled people **accessible** training and teaching in the skills needed to get these jobs.
3. Work to make sure Disabled people are also able to stay in these jobs long term. Make the jobs and workplaces **accessible** and make sure that **reasonable adjustments** are made through people's whole working life.
4. Work to get Disabled people into roles all through the organisations, including top roles. These shouldn't be **tokenistic roles** but meaningful promotion of Disabled people so there is good **representation** at every level.
5. Make and share guides with examples of best practice in job creation, hiring and keeping Disabled people in jobs.
6. Larger organisations should make their **policies** on paying access workers better.
7. Job centre staff should be trained on how to support Disabled people. This should include on supporting mental health needs.
8. A local **accessible** green jobs forum should be made. It should push for best practice in jobs. It should be made up of Disabled people and people with power.

Priority 1: (continued)
9. **The West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Good Employment Charter** should work with Disabled people to update the charter through **co-production**. (**The West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Good Employment Charter** is a scheme that tries to get local organisations to improve for their employees.) Improvements should find ways to get rid of barriers and **discrimination** faced by disabled people in jobs. It should find a way to more meaningfully encourage companies to become more **accessible** that aren't a **tick box exercise** and collect good examples of best practice.
10. **The West of England Mayoral Combined Authority** should use local organisations to support Disabled people to get into work. Local organisations will understand the local context better.
11. Local government, Disabled People's Organisations and disability organisations should push for the government to make **Access to Work** better. For example to change the scheme so that employers should have to do the work to get support instead of Disabled people. (**Access to Work** is a Government scheme that is supposed to offer Disabled people money to help with their **access needs** at work.)
12. Local government, Disabled People's Organisations and disability organisations should push for the government to stop disability cuts. Cuts to schemes like **PIP** make it harder for Disabled people to access and stay in work. (**PIP** means Personal Independence Payments and is a type of disability benefit.)
13. Offer help for Disabled people to setup and run their own businesses that are good for the planet.

Priority 2: Value the work of Disabled people even if it is **voluntary**.
1. Reimagine what work means. Support Disabled people to be able to make a difference in their community and society whether or not they have a job.
2. Understand that Disabled people sharing **lived experience** and expertise is a valuable offering and work. Pay Disabled people for their input.
3. Where money payment isn't possible, value this work by giving something back. For example, shopping vouchers, training or food.

Priority 2 (continued)
4. Local government, Disabled People's Organisations and disability organisations should push the government to change rules around **welfare benefits** so that Disabled people don't risk losing them for volunteering.

Priority 3: Educate Disabled people about **climate change**.
1. **Climate change** should be taught to children from the start of their education up until university. Make sure that these lessons are **accessible** with pictures, jargon-free **Plain English** and videos. Make it interesting and include fun parts.
2. **Climate change** education should be designed to meet the needs and interests of different types of Disabled people. This covers not only **accessible translations** but the type of content. For example **people with learning disabilities** will be more interested in a class that is designed for them than one that is just **translated** into **Easy Read**.



List of Actions – Homes and Buildings

Priority 1: Make sure all new homes are at least partly **accessible**.

1. 25% of all new homes should meet **wheelchair user standard** and 90% should meet **accessible** and **adaptable standard** under the current **building regulations.** This should include **visitable standard**. (**Wheelchair user standard** are rules that set out how to make a building **accessible** for wheelchair users. **Adaptable standard** are rules for making houses easy to adapt them so that Disabled people can use them. **Visitable standard** is when a house is built so that it is accessible to visit.)
2. Build all new homes in ways that lower the cost of adapting them and so that less waste is made by doing so.
3. **Accessible** features should be built into **social housing** from the start and not removed unless they clash with the access needs of the person currently living there.

Priority 2: Private, rented and social housing should be protected against disasters. It should also use energy well.

1. The council has a **Duty of care** to make sure that Disabled people live in safe places. (**Duty of care** means that an organsation has to take reasonable steps to avoid people being harmed.) This means that housing shouldn't be built in places that are likely to flood.
2. **Retrofit** the homes of Disabled people. Tthis means that they lose less heat and stay cool in summer.
3. Grants for this work to be given first to Disabled people who don't have much money.
4. Make sure that news of these grants is given out in an **accessible** way so Disabled people learn about them.
5. Create a **demonstration home** that is fully **accessible** and uses energy that is good for the planet. Use it to inspire other people to do the same.

Priority 2 (continued)
6. **Disabled Facilities Grants** should be funded properly and be able to be used for changes that are made with **climate change** in mind. For example, they should be able to be used for **retrofitting**. (**Disabled Facilities Grants** are grants Disabled people can get to make changes to their house to meet their **access needs**.)
7. Support should be given to disabled households without much money for the costs of flood **insurance** when living in flood risk areas. **Social housing** providers and private landlords must put **insurance** in place for tenants.
8. **Accessible** housing within areas at risk of flooding, storms and heat waves should be mapped and **prioritised** for improvement. **Relocation** areas should be identified. Access to key facilities and services should be ensured when **relocation** must take place.
9. Buildings should have plans for fixing key features like lifts quickly so Disabled people aren't trapped in or out of their flat. As **climate change** gets worse these are likely to break more often.
10. Landlords must be **responsible** for making changes on behalf of Disabled people in their housing to make sure it doesn't waste energy and is safe from disasters.

Priority 3: Bristol City Council should make a **register** of **accessible** housing.
1. This means people can know where housing is and what level of **accessibility** it has. This would also help **emergency** services when planning for disasters.
2. All types of social housing should be on this whether it is run by the council or a company.

Priority 4: Social housing should have easy access nearby to all the services the people living there might need. For example, doctors, shops and parks. This will mean Disabled people who live there will be able to travel less and have less need for a car.

Priority 5: Make sure that the homes of Disabled people who are renting are **accessible** and good for the planet.

1. Adverts about houses should be **accessible** and include information about both **accessibility** features and features that are good for planet. For example, say if the room for rent is step-free and what kind of energy is used to heat the house.

Priority 6: Disabled people who do not have a home should have their needs met. This is extra important as **climate change** gets worse.

1. Lots of homeless people are disabled. Temporary housing and shelters should be **accessible** and **retrofitted** so that Disabled people are safe when the weather gets hotter.
2. Homeless Disabled people are at extra risk during **climate change** events like hot weather. Support for homeless people in these times should be **accessible** and make sure Disabled people are one of the groups of homeless people first supported.

Priority 7: Groups that work on housing should support work in this area to be good for both Disabled people and the planet. For example, **Civic societies** should act as **allies** for Disabled people. (**Civic societies** are organizations that work to improve buildings and protect their history.)



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Evoke Pictures

Jargon buster

Ableist: Acting in a way that puts non disabled people's needs first. Often people don't even recognise they are doing it.
Acceptable sacrifice: When people think it's OK to let some people be hurt if other people are OK.
Access audit: When someone with a good knowledge of disability looks at plans or a project that has already been created and gives ideas about how to make it more **accessible**.
Access needs: What someone needs to be able to fully use or take part in something.
Access chain: The whole journey to using something like a park, including leaving the house, getting there, getting inside and the experience inside.
Access to Work: A scheme that supports Disabled people to access equipment or other types of support so that they can do their job.
Accessible: When something is made in a way so that it is good for Disabled people.
Accommodate/ Accommodations: When a change is made so that a Disabled person's needs are met.
Accountable: When someone should listen carefully to a group and always try to do what it suggests.
Activist: Someone who pushes for change to make things better.
Adapted bikes: When a bike has been changed to meet the needs of the Disabled people using it.
Allies: People who support a group of people even though they aren't one of them. For example, non disabled people are allies to disabled people when they fight for disability rights.
Announcements: When something is shared in a clear and public way so that everyone can understand and knows what is happening.
Asset-based community development: Where communities are supported to build on their strengths to make projects that are good for the community happen. It follows the idea of 'starting with what's strong not what's wrong'.

Assistive equipment: Tools that some Disabled people use to make daily life easier and more **accessible**.
Avon Resilience Forum: A group that organises services like fire, ambulances and the police.
Bollard: A pole in a path that makes it harder for cars and motorbikes to use the path.
BSL/British Sign Language: A lot of Deaf people use this language to talk. It uses hand gestures.
BSL interpreting: Interpreting is when a person who understands both BSL and English helps people who only can only use one of these languages to talk to each other.
Building regulations: A set of rules about how buildings should be built and looked after.
Business: A group that does something to make money. For example, a bank or shop. Most people's jobs are working for these types of group.
Camber: The angle of something. When pavements have a high camber it is hard for wheelchairs not to slide towards the road.
Campaigns: Projects that are trying to **influence** other groups and people to make something happen.
Caregivers: People who help and or support someone who couldn't manage without them. They aren't paid.
Champions: People who take on a role to support or push for an issue. For example, a climate change champion tries to get action climate change to happen.
Charging points: A place where equipment that needs electricity can be charged up.
Clean Air Zone: A part of the city that people who have cars that make dirty air have to pay to drive through.
Changing Space: A public toilet that is larger and has extra equipment to meet everyone's needs.
Civic societies: An organization that works to improve buildings and protect their history.
Climate change: The planet is getting too hot because of how people are using dirty fuels like petrol. This is leading to lots of problems locally and around the world.
Co-production: Ordinary people working together with experts to create something.
Co-production advisory policy: A document that says how coproduction should be done in Bristol.

Commissioned: When a group pays another group to run a project.
Commitment: When someone has promised to do something.
Community climate action plan: A plan made by a community about how they will take action on **climate change** and what they need to do so. The changes should be good for the community good.
Community fridges: Places where people can go to share food that would go to waste with people who can't afford to buy fresh food.
Community Places of Safety: Places in the local neighbourhood where people can gather to be safe when something dangerous like a flood happens.
Consulted/ Consultation: When communities are asked by people like the council for their thoughts on how a plan could be better.
Contracts: A document that says what a person or group has promised to do.
Cool spaces: Places in the local neighbourhood where people can go to be cool when their home is very hot.
Demonstration home: This is home people can visit to see what having changes done looks like.
Disabled Facilities Grants: Money Disabled people can get to make their home more **accessible**.
Disabled People's Organizations (DPOs): A organization that works to make things better for Disabled people and where all or most of the staff are Disabled people themselves.
Disablist: Acting in a way that treats Disabled people unfairly or unkindly.
Disadvantaged groups: People who are treated unfairly because of the group they belong to or because they don't have much money. For example, Disabled people, Black and Brown people or working class people.
Discount: When something can be bought for less money than usual.
Discriminate: To treat someone unfairly because of the group they are part of. For example, treating someone unfairly because they are a Disabled person.

Dropped kerbs: The part of a pavement that slopes down into the road. This makes it accessible for users such as wheelchair users to get from the pavement into the road.
Duty: When a person or organisation has a **responsibility** to do something.
Duty of care: A legal phrase that means that an organizatios has to take reasonable steps to avoid people being harmed.
E-scooter: This is short for electric scooter. It is a two wheeled vehicle that people stand on. It runs on electricity.
Easy Read: Documents for people with learning disabilities. The language is easy and has pictures.
Eating disorders/disordered eating: When people stop eating enough food or eat in a way that is unhealthy.
Emergency: Something dangerous that needs quick action to keep people safe. For example a flood or fire.
Emergency services: People who help when things get dangerous, like fire people and medics.
Enabled: When things are put in place to make sure someone can do something.
Energy Champions: People who share knowledge about energy with people and help them to use it better.
Energy Efficient: When energy is used in a sensible way and as little as possible is used.
Energy poverty: This is when people don't have enough money to pay for the energy they need and to stay warm.
Enforced: When someone makes sure that a rule is followed. For example, by fining people who break the rule.
Equality: When something is fair and people are treated equally.
Equality impact assessment: This is a piece of paperwork that has to be done to see who could be treated unfairly by a project.

Evacuations: When someone is taken out of their house to stay safe because of a dangerous event like a flood.
Evacuation plan: A plan that details clear information about the person's **access needs** and what support will be required in an evacuation.
Executive summary: A summary of the main points in a document. It gives you what you need to know without the detail if you can't read a whole document.
Expertise: Expertise is having a deep understanding of something. For example disability expertise is understanding the needs and experiences of Disabled people with lots of different types of impairment.
Food Intolerance: A food intolerance is when people are made ill by certain foods. For example milk can make some people unwell.
Friends of groups: Local people who volunteer their time to support their local park.
Fuse boxes: A box that controls power coming into the house.
Grab bag: A bag that has everything a person needs if they need to leave the house quick because of an **emergency**.
Gradient: How steep or shallow a slope is.
Green jobs: Jobs that are created to act on **climate change** or to look after nature.
Heat networks: When pipes under streets carry heat to a whole neighbourhood.
Harmful fuels: Fuels like gas and petrol. They are making **climate change** happen.
Hate crime: When a crime is carried out against a group that is protected because they are often treated unfairly, for example Disabled people. Hate crime can include speaking to people in a hateful way because of the group they belong to.
Hearing loop: A piece of technology that helps people with hearing aids hear better.
Heat resilience: When changes are made so that people can stay safe and well as the planet gets hotter.
Heatwaves: When it gets very hot for days or weeks at a time.
Human rights: A set of laws and ways of doing things that protects people and their needs so that they are treated fairly.

Hygiene waste: Waste like **incontinence pads** or dressings.
Impairments: When someone has a difference in their body or mind. When a person is treated unfairly because of this they become disabled.
Inaccessible: When something doesn't meet the needs of Disabled people.
Incontinence pads: Pads that people wear when they have problems with their bladder or bowels.
Influence: Successfully encouraging someone else to do something.
Information centres: Places where people can go to get advice.
Infrastructure: Big public physical spaces like buildings, roads and parks.
Intersectional: Thinking about how different types of unfair treatment are related to each other. For example, someone could be gay as well as disabled and this would mean they face two different ways of being treated unfairly.
Installation: When a project is carried out. For example, when changes to a road are put in.
Insurance: When people pay money into a pot each month so that if something is damaged then they can get money to fix it.
Jargon buster: A list of explanations for words in a document that not everyone will understand.
Library of Things: A place where people can borrow things for low or no cost. This means that they don't need to own everything themselves.
Light touch: When something is done in a way that is simple and doesn't ask a lot of people.
Liveable Neighbourhoods: When changes are made to a street or a few streets so that fewer cars drive through them.
Lived experience: When people share their experiences of being a Disabled person.
Lobby: When people try to get people with power to make a change that they want.
Maintained: When something is checked and looked after to make sure it is working well.
Mobility: The ability to move around easily.

Parking docks: A place where a vehicle like an **e-scooter** is parked. It has technology that means parking can't happen outside of this place.
Pay-it forward schemes: People with money choose to pay extra to help people without much money to access a service.
Pedestrians: People who get around by walking or wheelchair.
People with energy limiting conditions: People who don't have much energy even after resting. This limits how much they can do.
Permanent exemptions: When people don't have to pay for something like other people and won't ever have to pay.
Permits: A piece of paper that says someone is allowed to do something.
Personal assistants: People who give support and care to people so that they can do what they want to.
Personal preparedness plan: A plan that a person makes for themselves of what they will do when a dangerous event happens so that they stay safe.
PIP (Personal Independence Payment): A type of disability benefit Disabled people can get to support their day to day living and working.
Policies: The rules that an organization sets to say how something should be done.
Priority/ Prioritized: When something is seen as being important and a focus for action.
Priority seating: When a seat is saved for the people who need it most.
Priority services registers: This is a list that water and energy companies hold of customers who have told them that they might need extra support when the service is cut off.
Public transport: Transport that is run so that anyone can use it, though they probably have to pay to do so. For example, buses or trains.
Reasonable adjustments: Making changes to something so that access needs are met.
Recumbent bike: A bike that is cycled by lying down and using the arms instead of legs.
Register: An official list of something.

Recruiters: People who hire people into new jobs. For example they might run interviews.
Relocation: When something is moved somewhere else. For example, when someone has to be moved to another house.
Representatives: People who speak up for the needs of other people in their group. For example, one Disabled person talking about the needs of other Disabled people.
Resilience: When a group of people and a place are set up so that they are able to look after each other and stay safe and well when bad things happen. As **climate change** gets worse we need resilience in our communities so that we can stay safe.
Resources: Guides that people can use to do things well so that something can be accessible for a Disabled person's needs.
Responsible/responsiblity: When it's someone's role to do something. It is then their fault if they fail to do it.
Retrofitted: Changes that are made to a house so that it stays cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter. This means it costs less energy to run.
Sensory toys: toys that help people manage their emotions.
Smart meters: A piece of technology that says how much energy is being used in a house as it is used.
Social housing: A flat or house is rented to a person at an affordable price.
Temporary Housing: A short-term home for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. For example, a person might be given a bed in a hostel or council flat.
Tenants: People who live in a house but don't own it and pay to live there.
Tick box exercise: This phrase means that something is being done in a way that isn't meaningful. It meets the rules so it might look like it's good but misses important things.
Tokenistic: When someone is being used to try and pretend that something is happening without meaningful changes.
Translations: When information is turned into a language or format so that someone can understand. For example a document written in English could be translated into a **British Sign Language** video.

Universal Basic Income: This is where everyone gets an amount of money they can live well on whether they work or not.
Vehicles with a disabled tax class: When a Disabled person doesn't have to pay vehicle tax.
V**isual and audio aides:** Signing that uses sight and sound.
Voluntary: When people do volunteering. This is doing a task without getting money for it.
Warning system: A system that sends people messages so they know when dangerous weather is going to happen.
Welfare benefits: Money some people can get to help them manage life. Some Disabled people can get money to help with life because they are disabled.
Warm spaces: Places in the local neighbourhood where people can go to be warm when their home is very cold.
West of England Mayoral Combined Authority: An organisation that covers the councils in the local area. They hold funding for things like training and transport.
West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Good Employment Charter: a scheme that tries to get local organisations to improve for their employees.
Wood burning stoves: A way of heating a space by burning wood.



Bristol Climate &
Nature Partnership

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