South Gloucestershire Council

Delivering for you

DRAFT

Council Plan

2024/28

Consultation Document

Emerging Council Plan 2024

Framework

community conversations



- The council will have a clear plan for reducing inequalities as well as providing ongoing emergency support.
- Disadvantaged residents will be able to access better economic opportunities and increase their incomes.
- Residents will be accessing benefits and other financial support they are entitled to, to maximise their income and reduce their costs.
- Schools and families will be supported by increased uptake in Free School Meals.
- Residents will be able to access settled accommodation which is suitable and affordable to them.

- More children will be thriving in their first 1001 days and have the best start in life.
- More families will receive the right support, at the right time to prevent problems escalating further.
- Inequality gaps in education will be reduced so that more children get good outcomes.
- More children with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) will receive education in mainstream settings.
- More children will be achieving better outcomes by the end of their full-time education.
- More children in care and care leavers will benefit from education, employment and training opportunities.

- The council will be carbon neutral by 2030.
- Carbon emissions from homes will be reduced.
- Green tech innovation will be supported, and there will be thriving greener businesses and economy.
- Carbon emissions associated with energy generation will be reduced and local energy resilience increased.
- More people will be able to choose lower carbon, lower cost and healthier travel options.
- South Gloucestershire will have a healthier and more resilient natural environment.

- Stronger communities will be built by working together to understand and harness the unique strengths of our residents and places.
- More older people will feel they are ageing well, their contribution is valued and supported in their community.
- Communities will be better connected and use their resources to meet identified local needs.
- There will be extra support for those people who need it, at the time they need it.
- More carers will be identified; how carers access support will be easier, and more carers will feel recognised and supported.
- Health and care systems will be better integrated providing services close to home and easily accessible to our residents.

HOW WE WORK: People focussed, Open, Informed, Innovative, Collaborative.

Our promises: action today for a brighter tomorrow

The next four years must be a turning point for South Gloucestershire. By making the right choices now we can grasp new opportunities, take early action on emerging challenges and reverse the growing inequalities in our district.

We must plan for a growing, ageing and more diverse population over the coming decades, while building the right infrastructure and protecting our natural environment.

We must play our part in reducing the impact of the climate and nature emergency, reducing emissions, restoring nature, and ensuring our communities are prepared for more extreme weather and flooding.

The pandemic and public sector budget cuts have weakened our social infrastructure and there are signs of rising inequalities.

This plan aims to put South Gloucestershire on the right path for the coming decades by:

1. Driving the green transition with a focus on renewable energy, heating and green transport choices.
2. Acting now to start reducing inequalities to at least pre-pandemic levels and then beyond.
3. Ensuring the next generation gets the best start in life and that every child is able to thrive.
4. Strengthening social infrastructure and taking action now to reduce long-term health inequalities.
5. Building better places using our powers in planning, transport and housing, our strong voice in the West of England Combined Authority and our influence with national government.

About this plan

The council plan is our key corporate strategy. By setting out our priorities, it helps residents and partners to understand our agenda for change, and it means they can hold us to account for delivery. The plan will direct how we set our budget and will give clear direction to the other strategies we produce.

We deliver hundreds of vital services to residents every day and we cannot hope to capture all of them in this plan. Instead, our goal is to identify the key activities that will help us deliver our vision of a fairer, greener district.

This is the council's plan, but we know that many of these goals can only be delivered by working with our partners and the community. This is why our actions, outcomes and priorities will be integrated into wider partnership strategies such as the Integrated Health and Care Strategy and those of the West of England Combined Authority.

This plan recognises that inequalities are often linked to each other and that this increases their impact. Therefore, not only the reducing inequalities goal, but all the goals set out in this plan will work in ways that are focused on tackling inequalities and the advancement of equality for all across the district.

This document sets out the council's ambitions for the future. It does this by defining:

- Our vision for South Gloucestershire as a fairer, greener place
- Four goals focused on climate, inequality, health & wellbeing and children where we will make a difference over the next four years.
- One underpinning goal for Building Better Places, which recognises the fundamental role that housing and transport play in delivering each of the other four goals.
- Clear action plans that will deliver our ambitions for each of these areas.

The final plan will include an equalities scorecard that will be used to track the combined impact of our actions.

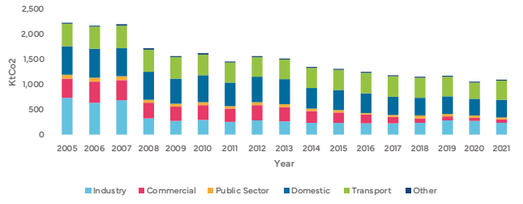
South Gloucestershire at a turning point

> **The decisions we make today will determine the shape of our district for the next decade. By acting now to turn the curve, we can create places that are liveable, sustainable, healthy and resilient for the future.**

Going further on climate

We are delivering nationally leading work to reduce the district's emissions, but our plans do not go far enough. We need new proposals to address a further 500-600 kilo tonnes of carbon.

South Gloucestershire Carbon Dioxide Emissions 2005-2021

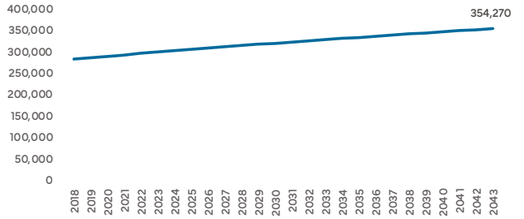


Source: South Gloucestershire Council's Quality of Life Report 2023

Better infrastructure for a growing population

Our population is growing, ageing and becoming more diverse, but we don't have the housing or transport infrastructure we need to help everyone lead a healthy and fulfilling life. We need to work with our partners to deliver a wider range of choices.

Population trends – South Gloucestershire 2018-2043

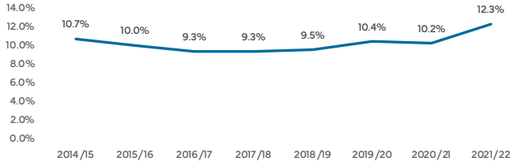


Source: ONS This data uses the latest available population projections published by ONS with mid-year 2018 as the base figure

Acting against rising inequalities

Our district is an economic powerhouse with high productivity and low levels of relative deprivation, but levels of inequality are starting to rise. We need to act now to reverse the trend.

Children in relative low income families (under 16s) 2021/22

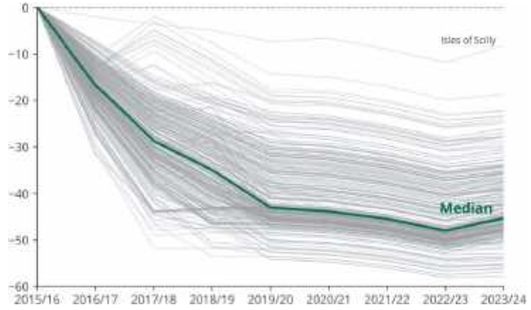


Source: South Gloucestershire Financial Security Dashboard

Tackling a tough financial position

In common with councils across the country, we have to achieve these goals in the context of declining central government funding.

Settlement funding to almost all authorities will be lower in real terms in 2023/24 than in 2015/16



Source: Local Government Finances (2023) CBP-8431.pdf (parliament.uk)

OUR VISION:
A Fairer, Greener Future

The 2020s are a pivotal decade. We must play our part in tackling the climate crisis and act to overcome the inequalities between communities and different areas, which were made worse by the pandemic. There are opportunities and challenges that come with a changing population and the decisions that we take now will shape our area for the next generation.

Our vision is of a South Gloucestershire that is greener, fairer and more inclusive. We must grasp the economic opportunities of the green transition and help our communities adapt to extreme weather and increased flooding, and we must act now to stem rising inequality, or risk a district divided between rich and poor.

This is no small ambition. The national economic picture is difficult for our residents, communities, businesses and the council itself. Despite this, we are determined to start today, by making the right decisions for today's residents and generations to come.

Our towns and villages have a rich history of innovation, from mining the coal that fired the industrial revolution, to building the aircraft that today link the world.

We must now harness that same bold spirit as we move from the era of fossil fuels and deliver the opportunities of clean energy, nature recovery, artificial intelligence and the life sciences. South Gloucestershire has been, and continues to be, the home of innovation. We want to harness this for the future.

As a council, we will play our part in the green transition. We will reduce emissions from our own operations, enable scaling up of investment in climate and nature, encourage green technology and business innovation, and use our powers in housing and transport to deliver sustainable solutions. We will work with communities to manage the impacts of the changing climate and take action to protect, restore and enhance nature across our area.

The transition to a sustainable economy must not leave anyone behind. We will ensure our services continue to support the best possible start in life for children and young people, enable older people to live independently and take steps to create an age-friendly district. We will go further, by reviewing the council's approach to inequality, bringing forward a new strategy to increase economic inclusion, improve access to services and, ultimately, to improve outcomes for everyone.

It is critical that we build enough of the right type of homes, supported by the right infrastructure and improved transport choices. While we do not have the powers to achieve this goal on our own, we will be a strong voice for South Gloucestershire in the West of England Combined Authority, regional partnerships and with national government.

The council is part of a community of towns, villages and parishes and we work closely with a range of voluntary sector groups, other public and private sector bodies. Working together with everyone is how we will achieve our shared goals. Our new Community Conversations approach is about working in an open, engaging way so that everyone can get involved and play their part.



Residents have asked us to focus on housing, transport, climate and nature

As part of our Community Conversations approach to open engagement with residents, we ran an online survey and series of face-to-face events to understand community priorities.
The three top issues – housing, transport, climate and nature – form the core this plan.

What is your greatest hope for your local area over the next 10 years?



Housing

- "More affordable housing"
- "Careful choices for new developments"
- "Not spoiled by over-development"
- "Stop building without infrastructure"

Climate and Nature

- "An increase in biodiversity"
- "South Glos reduces carbon emissions to near zero"
- "Protect green spaces"

Transport

- "A reduction in traffic"
- "Improved public transport"
- "Choices other than a car for getting around"
- "Deal with poor road conditions"



GOAL **1**

We will respond to the climate and nature emergency

Carbon emissions in South Gloucestershire have roughly halved since 2005, but the pace of change needs to increase significantly to meet our ambitions. Even with our current programme we are likely to have a gap of up to 600 kilo tonnes of CO2 remaining by 2030, which is equivalent to the annual mileage of around 375,000 cars.

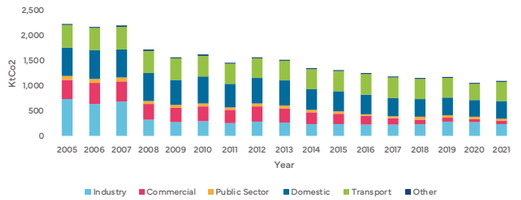
The council is committed to responding to the climate and nature emergency and already delivers and reports on an annual action plan. The key areas where we need to do more are homes, businesses, transport, waste, renewable energy and agriculture.



Our goals for nature are to double the tree canopy; for 30% of land to be managed positively for nature; to connect sites with natural habitats and to improve river catchments. Only around 14% of homes in South Gloucestershire have low carbon heating systems, and increasing uptake will need to be a key goal.

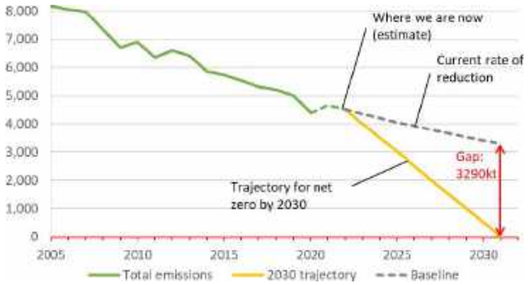
Travel solutions are key. These will need to include affordable, reliable well-connected and low carbon alternatives to help reduce traditional car use, including mass and public transport. Electric Vehicle (EV) use is increasing, and we are currently seeing more than 500 new charge-points installed every year.

South Gloucestershire Carbon Dioxide Emissions 2005-2021



Source: South Gloucestershire Council's Quality of Life Report 2023

West of England trajectory to net zero (kt CO2 per year)



Source: State of the West of England: Emerging Evidence DESNZ, 2023

The amount of waste the district sends to landfill has reduced because of increased tonnages of recycling and the increased use of energy from waste. Over the next four years we will continue to focus on increasing recycling further to reduce the amount of waste that goes elsewhere.

GOAL 1

We will respond to the climate and nature emergency



What we **will do**	What will **be different**
• Deliver the projects in our annual Climate and Nature Emergency Action Plan. • Trial a carbon budgeting system for the council and its suppliers of goods and services. • Develop and deliver an Adaptation and Resilience Strategy and Action Plan.	• The agreed priorities of our response to the Climate and Nature Emergency will be delivered. • Our commitment to be a carbon neutral council by 2030 will be achieved. • Our communities, infrastructure and services will be more resilient, especially for those with health risk vulnerabilities.
• Ensure more new and existing homes include zero energy and decarbonised heating solutions, and provide home energy advice • Support strategic heat and cooling networks including potential for heating from mine water. • Work with local business to reduce emissions, and support innovation in green technology. • Support increased renewable energy capacity with a focus on community energy. • Promote low carbon travel including public transport, Mass Transit, active travel and rollout of Electric Vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure. • Secure new waste contract to improve recycling levels.	• Carbon emissions from homes will be reduced. • Domestic heating will be decarbonised and community resilience to extreme weather events including heat and flood increased. • Green tech innovation is supported, and there are thriving greener businesses and economy. • Carbon emissions associated with energy generation will be reduced and local energy resilience has increased.
• Deliver work towards our Nature Recovery goals to double tree canopy cover, manage land positively for nature, connect sites for nature, and improve our river catchments.	• The natural environment will be healthier and more resilient.

GOAL 2

We will help reduce inequalities

The South Gloucestershire economy has the highest levels of productivity in the South West. We benefit from major employers such as Airbus, Rolls Royce, Friends Provident and the Ministry of Defence as well as a strong small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) sector. This has contributed to our ongoing population growth and low levels of relative deprivation.



But not everyone in South Gloucestershire is able to benefit from this success. In the wake of the pandemic, recent economic shocks and the rising cost of living, the data clearly show that we face rising poverty.

Parts of the district have suffered from long-term deprivation and many of our communities – particularly in rural areas – have difficulty in accessing essential public services.

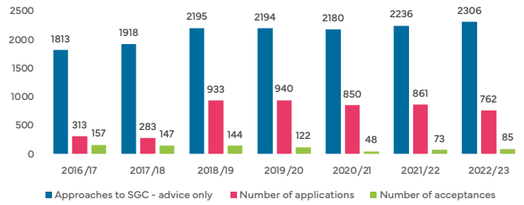
We need to recognise and celebrate diversity, which makes us culturally richer, and work to ensure that the benefits of our economy are shared by all.

Residents have told us that we should focus on access to health, housing and education as our priorities.

We will take these priorities forward with partners such as West of England Combined Authority and the National Health Service (NHS).

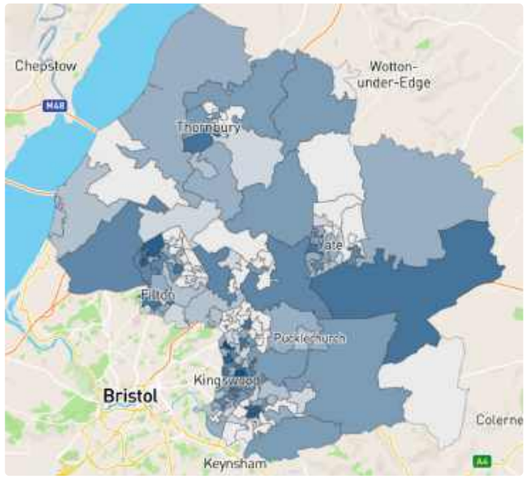
The council has limited powers to address inequality directly, but we can work in partnership with others to ensure people can access the best possible financial support, find help to get into work and get the public services they need.

Homeless applications (previous years)



Source: South Gloucestershire quarterly housing performance report

Indices of multiple deprivation 2019 (darker is relatively more deprived)



Source: MHCLG open data English Indices of Deprivation 2019

GOAL **2**

We will help reduce inequalities



What we **will do**	What will **be different**
• Develop and deliver a single, council-wide plan for reducing medium term inequalities.	• The council will have a clear plan for reducing inequalities as well as providing ongoing emergency support.
• Bring together our partners from the West of England Combined Authority, the National Health Service (NHS), education system, Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) and parishes to develop a long-term, shared agenda for improving access to health and education services, grounded in lived experience. • Work with the West of England Combined Authority to ensure people in South Gloucestershire have the skills to secure good local jobs. Support the establishment of a college on the East Fringe.	• Disadvantaged residents can access better economic opportunities and increase their incomes.
• Lead a communications campaign to ensure residents are aware of financial advice and support from all sources. • Ensure residents access the welfare benefits and other financial support they are entitled to.	• Residents can maximise their income and reduce their costs. • Schools and families are supported by increased uptake in Free School Meals.
• Deliver a wider range of housing options, including more affordable homes, through the Local Plan. • Develop and deliver an action plan to address growing homelessness pressures. • Deliver affordable and supported housing to improve outcomes for priority need groups.	• Residents can access settled accommodation which is suitable and affordable to them.

GOAL 3

We will support children and young people to thrive



Families come in many shapes and sizes, and in South Gloucestershire we want them all to thrive. To get the best start in life, all of our children need love and support from those around them.

There are just over 62,500 children living in the district, with more than a quarter aged under four. Some of the highest concentrations of children live in Emersons Green, Staple Hill, Thornbury, Mangotsfield and Stoke Gifford.

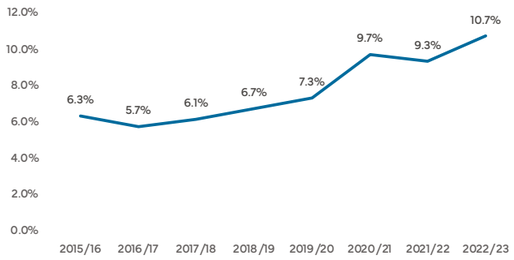
While South Gloucestershire has relatively low levels of deprivation, we know that inequality is starting to increase. There have been increases in the rate and number of vulnerable children being referred to social services and we are seeing the emergence of disparities along ethnic lines.



There have been increases in the proportion of the school population that are eligible for Free School meals. There are also increases in the number of children who have a Special Educational Need (SEN).

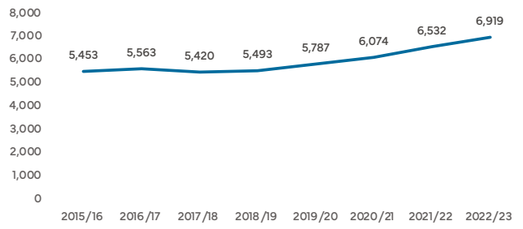
A relatively high number of our care leavers are not in education, employment or training. We need to take action to improve the outcomes for all our children.

Percentage uptake of free school meals 2022/23



Source: South Gloucestershire Financial Security Dashboard

Total headcount of pupils in schools with SEN in South Gloucerstershire



Source: Department for Education

GOAL **3**

We will support children and young people to thrive



What we **will do**	What will **be different**
• We will work together with partners to provide a multi-agency campaign to focus on early years development.	• More children are able to thrive in their first 1001 days and have the best start in life.
• Refresh and deliver the Early Help Strategy and action plan.	• More families receive the right support, at the right time to prevent problems escalating further.
• Develop new, local, residential provision for children in care in South Gloucestershire.	• More children will remain in local provision within their communities.
• Provide high quality local education places for all children and young people close to home and in their community. • Deliver our equality in education programme to reduce exclusions and further support mental health to improve attendance. • Secure more specialised school places for children with additional needs and improve communications with parents and carers. • Develop a skills academy in the East Fringe.	• More children, young people and their families are involved in their care planning. • More young people will be achieving better outcomes by the end of full-time education, increasing their chances of securing well paid employment. • Inequality gaps in education are reduced so more children get good outcomes. • More children with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) receive education in mainstream settings.
• Support Care Leavers into work or training to minimise Not in Education, Employment and Training (NEET) status. • Support other organisations to take on a stronger corporate parenting role.	• We are excellent corporate parents for our children in care and care leavers. • More children in care and care leavers benefit from education, employment and training opportunities.



GOAL 4

We will support wellbeing and independence in our communities

South Gloucestershire residents tend to have better than national average health outcomes, reflecting our relatively low levels of deprivation. But with a growing, ageing and diversifying population – the over-65 age group is projected to grow by more than a quarter over the next 15 years – we need to act to narrow some significant inequalities and ensure we can support our older residents.

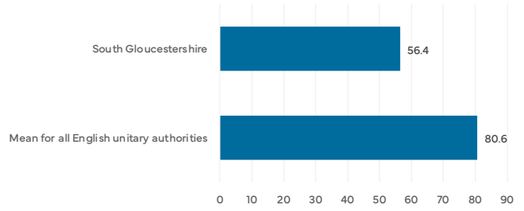
The council must respond to this continually growing need, but we also want to help to build community resilience. This means enabling and helping people to do as much as possible to support each other in their local area. Where older people are supported to live independently in their own homes and younger generations play a part in community life, intergenerational and integrated communities can thrive, with benefits to physical and mental health and wellbeing for all.



Despite generally good health in the district, there are still significant inequalities in areas such as alcohol-related illness, preventable deaths and obesity, and our population suffers from above average levels of depression. As a partially rural district, we also face particular challenges in helping our less mobile residents to access the services they need.

There is also work to do to improve outcomes for adults with learning disabilities, who are less likely to live independently, and the proportion in paid employment has fallen in recent years.

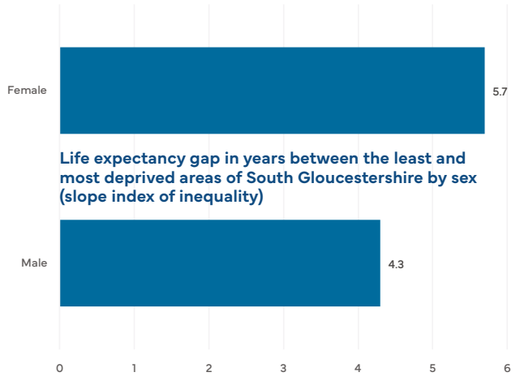
% of adults with learning disabilities who live in their own home or with family (2021/22)



Source: Department for Education

We will work to support people within our new and resettling communities moving into the area to thrive in education and employment, and to access housing, health and wellbeing services.

Inequality in life expectancy at birth 2018-20



GOAL **4**

We will support wellbeing and independence in our communities



What we **will do**	What will **be different**
• Implement actions to support people to stop smoking and prevent them starting. • Deliver a healthy weight declaration in South Gloucestershire. • Develop and deliver a physical activity and leisure strategy. • Evaluate the Prevention Fund impact and identify future actions.	• More people will live longer and healthier lives.
• Deliver Asset Based Community Development approaches with partners. • Develop and implement with older people and partners our Age Friendly strategy. • Encourage communities to support each other and assist people to help themselves. • Take action to work towards 15-minute communities.	• We will build stronger communities by working together to understand and harness the unique strengths of our residents and places. • More older people will feel they are ageing well, their contribution is valued and supported in their community. • Communities will be better connected and use their resources to meet identified local needs.
• Develop and deliver the domestic abuse strategy. • Develop responsive Safeguarding services. • Promote access to adaptations for those who need it at the time of need. • Deliver a trauma-informed workforce. • Complete a needs assessment and review with health system partners.	• There will be extra support for those people who need it, at the time they need it.
• Implement actions prioritised by carers themselves in our 23-28 Carers Strategy. • Improve care and support provision through Commissioning Transformation. • Improve the provision of information, advice and guidance (IAG).	• More carers will be identified by themselves or agencies. • Carers will find it easier to access support, and more carers will feel recognised and supported. • Health and care systems will be better integrated providing services close to home and easily accessible to our residents.



GOAL 5

We will help build better places

South Gloucestershire's population has increased by 10.5% over the past decade and is expected to grow by a further 20% by 2043. This will create demand for more than 20,000 new homes and place additional strain on our transport network. Housing affordability is worsening, with people priced out of the market, unable to buy and facing rising rents, so we know that 5,000 of the new homes will need to be part of affordable schemes.

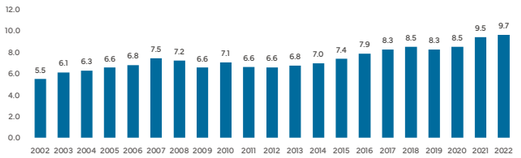


Residents have been clear that their priorities are ensuring new development is sensitive to the natural environment and supported by social and transport infrastructure. If we do not get these two areas right, we will struggle to achieve our other four goals.

The council's main direct power over new housing comes through the planning system, but we can also encourage and support investment in existing housing stock, to help ensure it better meets our residents' changing needs. The new Local Plan will set out where we want to approve new homes, including affordable Homes, as well as the vital transport links and policies on climate, nature and heritage, which will mean new homes enhance our communities and don't place them under strain. The adoption of the new plan will give us more control over development, and the amount, location, type and quality of new housing that is provided.

We will work with the West of England Combined Authority and prioritise better public transport links to education, employment and health care.

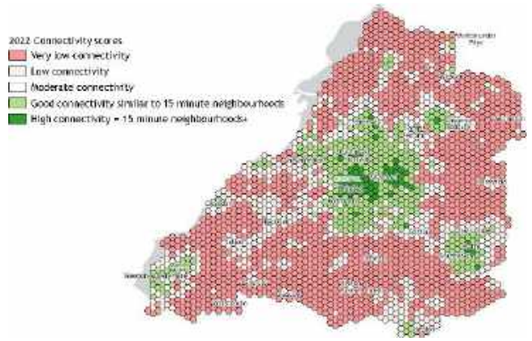
Ratio of median house prices (existing dwellings) to median gross annual residence-based earnings (low is good)



Source: ONS, LGInform

The needs of pedestrians and cyclists will be designed into the heart of our plan making, both by delivering and developing strategic corridor schemes and striving to fill the gaps in accessing them. We will work with West of England Combined Authority to develop a transport plan to decarbonise the transport network and to ensure that new housing development has sustainable transport links.

Connectivity to public services 2022



Source: State of the West of England emerging evidence
WECA TAF: ONS (Access to products and services, 2022)

We want to give all residents access to economic opportunity and real choices beyond the car.

GOAL **5**

We will help build better places – transport



What we **will do**	What will **be different**
• Work with the West of England Combined Authority to protect transport choices to health education and employment. • Work with the West of England Combined Authority to deliver the Bus Services Improvement Plan (BSIP) programme (enhance services, fares incentives). • Work with the West of England Combined Authority to develop a mass transit solution for the region.	• Climate emergency objectives are supported, young people have better access to skills, training, education and employment and more inclusive communities provides people with opportunities to remain in their chosen community. • More people will be able to travel by public transport.
• Produce an active travel strategy which puts the needs of pedestrians and cyclists first. • Deliver our current active travel infrastructure programme City Region Sustainable Transport Settlements (CRSTS 1).	• Sustainable travel is a real and attractive option to residents. • More people are walking and cycling. • The health benefits of active travel are being experienced.
• Work with the West of England Combined Authority to develop the next Joint Local Transport Plan. • Work with the West of England Combined Authority to develop the pipeline of schemes for CRSTS 2. • Develop infrastructure solutions and a strong policy framework to support sustainable growth.	• Healthy, active communities with real transport options are developed. • There is a clear plan to deliver transport decarbonisation.

GOAL **5**

We will help build better places – housing



What we **will do**	What will **be different**
• Deliver a new Local Plan.	• There will be a renewed focus on zero carbon homes and ensuring good infrastructure is included in new developments and speculative development will be reduced.
• Deliver the objectives in our Housing Strategy. • Develop and deliver an action plan to address growing homelessness pressures.	• The choice and affordability of homes will be improved, independent living will be promoted, accessibility increased and those in greatest need prioritised. • More residents will be able to access settled accommodation that is suitable and affordable to them, and rough sleeping in the district will be reduced.
• Work in partnership with Homes West and providers of supported and specialist housing to deliver more high-quality affordable homes. • Work in partnership with Housing Associations to improve their existing homes and to reduce carbon emissions.	• Outcomes for people in need especially priority need groups will be improved. • Carbon emissions from homes, and energy bills will be reduced.
• Work in partnership with Housing Associations to engage more with their hard to reach and vulnerable residents. • We will support people to maintain and adapt their homes to meet current and future needs.	• Residents should be able to help themselves access opportunities and feel part of a local community. • Independence and quality of life will be improved for more people.

How the council will deliver this plan

Delivering this plan means we must continue our work to reform the council to be as productive and effective as possible. Key principles that underpin this include:

People focussed

We will build on the WECare values by developing a programme of organisational development that embeds openness, information, innovation, collaboration and a one council approach into the way we work and train our staff.

Innovative

We will continuously improve everything we do by reviewing our processes and trialling new technologies such as artificial intelligence to save money, improve customer access, engage better with residents, and gather data to inform decision-making and innovation. We will seek new ways to access national and other funding streams and look further at how we use our own money differently.

Open

We will develop our Community Conversations approach so that all of our biggest decisions are informed by resident views.

Informed

We will create a data strategy so that our decisions are always informed by the best possible analysis, and we will openly publish as much of this data as we are legally able.

Collaborative

We will work with our communities and partners to deliver our vision for housing and transport, improve health and education outcomes and create safer communities.

Our priority strategies that will enable us to deliver this plan are:

1. South Glos Together: we will create a people, organisational development and culture strategy that helps us secure the best staff, fosters shared organisational values and commitment, and encourages openness, innovation and use of evidence.
2. Community engagement strategy: we will set a pipeline of innovative new approaches to taking decisions with residents.
3. Digital, customers and data transformation strategies: we will bring forward proposals to further automate and digitise services to improve customer access and experience. We will implement a data transformation programme to dramatically improve our ability to analyse information, supporting personalised services.
4. Reviewing how we use our estate and assets to support our goals, adapting to changing needs and work patterns.
5. Partnerships review: our goals involve working in partnership with others to be successful. We will review our approach to partnerships to ensure that we continue to play the most effective role possible.
6. All of this will be underpinned by a continuing focus on financial excellence through our Medium-Term Financial Strategy and resource planning process.



How we will know we are delivering: key metrics

We want this plan to become reality, so we will track a small number of key targets and measures that tell us whether we are making progress. We will regularly publish updates on how we are doing.

We will respond effectively to the climate and nature emergency

- Our annual Climate and Nature Emergency progress report which includes Greenhouse gas protocol emissions reporting.
- Council progress towards net zero emissions by 2030 will be tracked and reported.
- Adaptation and Resilience Strategy and Action Plan prepared, adopted and annual progress reported.
- Improvement in Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of our homes.
- Delivery of Strategic Heat and Cooling Network project milestones.
- Annual Increase in renewable energy capacity in communities.
- Annual reduction in transport emissions.
- Number of Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points installed.
- Annual improvement in recycling rate and annual reduction in residual waste.
- Annual progress to increase tree cover, gaps connected in our nature network, area of land managed positively for nature, the status of our river catchments.

We will help reduce inequalities

- Plan for reducing inequalities published by April 2024 includes metrics for each priority area.
- Our Viewpoint residents panel shows that communities feel more hopeful about the future.
- Fewer South Gloucestershire communities are in the lowest quartile across all domains of the Index of Multiple Deprivation.
- The number of low income families falls by 10%.
- More of the people eligible for free school meals take up their entitlement.
- Fewer families are eligible for free school meals due to improved financial wellbeing.
- Delivery of new homes, including affordable homes, in line with our published targets.
- More people are prevented or relieved from homelessness.

We will support children and young people so they can thrive

- Children have a better level of development – measures to include % of children achieving a good level of development at 2-2½ years.
- Early Help Strategy and action plan developed and delivered.
- New residential provision developed.
- Sufficiency of childcare places (number of wards where level is below Department for Education recommended level).
- More young people achieve good outcomes at Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5.
- Percentage of parental preference met for places during admissions round – primary and secondary.
- Percentage of early years settings judged good or better.
- Percentage of schools (primary and secondary) judged good or better.
- No. of children in Education, Employment and Training (EET), Not in Education, Employment and Training (NEET), Unknown
- Persistent absence falls.
- Children with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) achievement rates.
- Number of foster carers.
- NEET rate for care leavers falls.
- More organisations take on a corporate parenting role.

How we will know we are delivering: key metrics

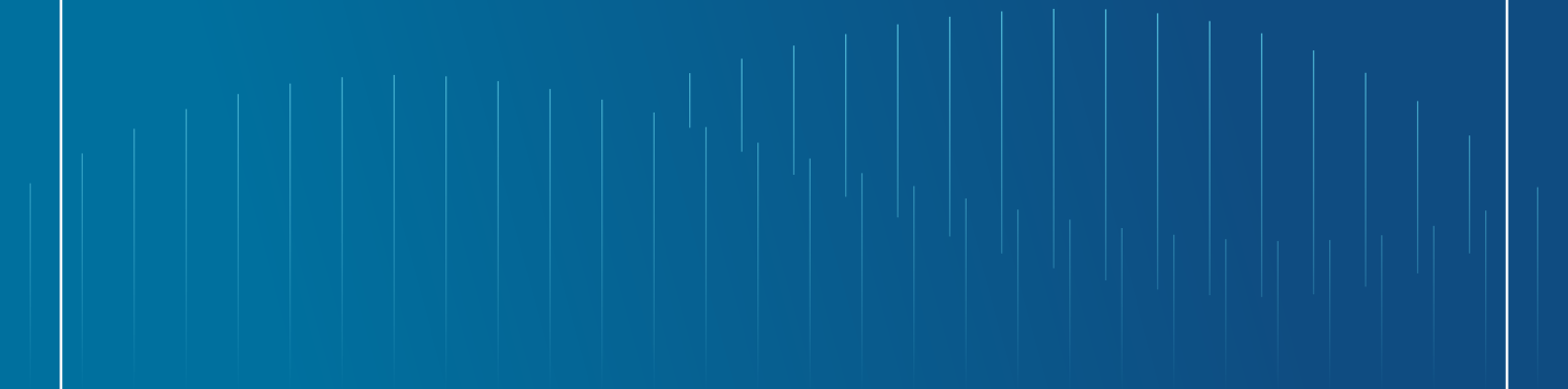
Wellbeing and independence is supported in communities

- Smoking rate in adults declines.
- Levels of physical activity increase and more residents have a healthy weight.
- More people report that they are happy and have lower anxiety in surveys of self-reported wellbeing.
- A reduction in placements into residential care, and placements happening at an older age.
- The number of older people who feel they are ageing well increases.
- Increase in carers identified and receiving support. Carers satisfaction.
- More people will benefit from short term services such as reablement.
- Reduction in waiting times for the right service.
- Increased online access to Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG).
- Increase in the proportion of older people (aged 65 and over) who were still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital into reablement/ rehabilitation services.

Building better places

- Bus patronage returns to pre-pandemic level by 2025 and grows by 24% from that level by 2030.
- Emissions from private vehicles reduce.
- The number of people walking and cycling on strategic corridors increases.
- New communities are delivered that embed low carbon, sustainable travel options.
- Local Plan Delivery Plan milestones achieved.
- Delivery of new homes, including affordable homes, to meet our published targets.
- The range of housing types and tenures to meet specific needs.
- Fewer households will be homeless, and/or rough sleeping.
- Improvement in Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating on Housing Association homes.
- More residents able to remain in their own homes for longer as their needs change, avoiding the need for residential care.





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