

***Working Together
for a Better,
Fairer Manchester***

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Foreword

The last few years have brought unprecedented global and local challenges, from the impacts of a decade of Tory and Liberal Democrat Government austerity to Brexit and Climate change through to the devastating COVID-19 pandemic and now the Government led Cost of Living Crisis.

Through all these challenges, Manchester Labour was by your side, making sure the council led the COVID-19 effort to supported people, communities, businesses and our NHS, while standing up to the Tory Government and demanding more support for our communities.

I have been immensely proud of our how our city has responded, we saw the best of people in the worst of times.

Many challenges remain and as the new Leader of Manchester I want you to know that Manchester Labour will be by your side as we tackle them together.

We'll help those feeling the pressure from the Conservative's Cost of Living Crisis, supporting the most vulnerable and those in need.

We'll continue to make sure that despite the pandemic, Manchester comes back stronger and better.

Despite the challenges, I am optimistic for the future. Manchester is a truly fantastic place to be, a place full of hope and opportunity, a city I am proud to lead.

We have an ambitious plan to make Manchester a truly world class city, that puts Manchester people first. A thriving and sustainable city, where everyone benefits from our successes, and a city that is the best place in the country to grow up, get on and get older.

We will always be on your side, and together we can build a Better, Fairer Manchester.

Cllr Bev Craig,



Manchester Labour

Manchester is a great place to live, to work and to thrive. One of the fastest growing cities in Europe it is an energetic, diverse and creative place. We want an even better Manchester, a prosperous and equal place, where every child has the best start in life, that creates new and exiting opportunities for Manchester people. A place where everyone can live happy and healthy lives, with good jobs, in clean and green and safe neighbourhoods, where everyone has a decent and genuinely affordable home. A city where no one is left behind, and everyone is proud of.

This is the Manchester, residents tell us they want and a reality we are working together to build. Over a decade of austerity has been forced on us by Tory & Liberal Democrat politicians, politicians Manchester rejected overwhelmingly at the ballot box. The money, power and opportunities stolen from our city, first by the Coalition and now by the current cold, uncaring Tory Government mean we cannot do everything we would want to do.

For that we need a radical Labour Government in Westminster and every Labour councillor elected in Manchester on May 5th will bring that prospect forward.

Our budget for this year is £420 million lower in real terms than it was in 2010. £120,000 a day has been taken from Manchester, every day, for the last 12 years. These cuts are politically motivated and deliberately targeted at the areas of greatest need, at Labour cities like Manchester.

Even with only the average cut, Manchester would be £1.5 million a week better off. Now the Tories want to increase the burden on household budgets by forcing up the regressive Council Tax and National Insurance to cover up their economic failures.

Despite this, Manchester Labour has always stood up for Manchester and delivered on our priorities.

A vote for Labour on 5th May we will keep us fighting for a thriving, fair and strong Manchester.



**£120,000 a day has been taken
from Manchester, every
day, for the last 12 years**

Standing up for Manchester

We will always put Manchester people first and will call out any Government that looks to hold back our city. Manchester has lost £420million from it's budget each year due to Tory and Tory-Lib Dem cuts - had Manchester received the average cut then we would be at least £85million a year better off.

COVID 19 hit our communities hard, with higher infection rates meaning more devastation for families, more people getting ill and more peoples jobs and businesses impacted. Your Labour Council was at the forefront of supporting people and communities, from launching the Manchester food response to supporting the NHS with the vaccine programme. We know that COVID has not gone away and we will do everything we can to help Manchester recover from the pandemic.

COVID-19 hit cities like ours the hardest, and we fought for fair funding through the pandemic. Now, we see a Conservative cost of living crisis that again will hit the poorest hardest.

We will:

- Campaign for proper and fair funding for our city to do the things we need and challenge the Government to keep their promise of Levelling Up places like Manchester, not try to level us down
- Fight against Conservative privatisation of the NHS and to keep public services in public hands.
- Do everything we can to support residents through the Cost of Living Crisis; the Council has committed £55million to support those most in need
- Refresh our Anti-Poverty Strategy and roll-out extra hardship funds for those in need such as ring fencing over £3million to help people struggling with rent, along with support with food parcels and free school meals



**We will do everything we
can to support residents
through the cost of Living Crisis**

An Economy that Works for All

Manchester's economy is one of most successful and fastest growing in Europe, with new businesses moving to Manchester despite the pandemic. A growing economy is important to making sure Manchester remains a great place to live and work. We need a strong economy where all Manchester people have access to decent, secure jobs, and benefit from the economic recovery of our city.

Manchester Labour priorities local businesses and people by keeping as much of our spending as possible within the city to support our residents. Last year we spent £247million with Manchester-based organisations, creating 2,300 jobs and supporting more than 600 apprenticeships.

We will:

- Become a Real Living Wage City- we want everyone to get paid a real living wage as a minimum, and only do business with organisations that pay at least this rate
- Promote the Good Employment Charter for good and secure terms and conditions
- Ensure local businesses and local jobs are prioritised in the procurement of council goods and services
- Promote and increase the number of apprenticeships for Manchester people
- Ensure the rights of trade unions to organise in workplaces especially where public money is involved
- Campaign against exploitive zero hour contracts
- Make sure our young people have the skills and knowledge that allow them to thrive in our growing economy



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A Fairer More Equal City

Manchester proudly celebrates its diversity and is a place for all to thrive, no matter your background. We are committed to building a fairer society, where the economy works for everyone and where no one is held back or left behind. Manchester Labour has a proud history campaigning against inequality and injustice but we know that over the last decade the Government has made inequality worse, and that the pandemic exacerbated historic inequalities

We will:

- Launch our Tackling Inequalities Taskforce that will set out Manchester's plan to become a more equal place
- Refresh our Anti-Poverty Strategy to reduce the number of people living in poverty, and spend over £34m with voluntary and community groups on anti-poverty measures
- Invest more resources in tackling violence and misogyny against women and girls and hear residents' voices through our Women's Commission.
- Launch a Night Time Safety Charter to help keep women safe
- Work alongside GMP to tackle domestic violence, women's safety and hate crime



We will work alongside GMP to tackle domestic violence, women's safety and hate crime

Putting Young People First

We are determined to make Manchester the best place in the country to grow up and get on. We want every child born or growing up in Manchester to have the best start in life, and access the best education and opportunities.

Manchester is a thriving city but we want to make sure that our young people can take advantage of all of the opportunities that exist here. The pandemic has been tough but we have put children and young people at the heart of our city's recovery with 2022 Our Year.

We want the best for Manchester's children- the best schools, early years settings work experience and opportunities as well as fun, free and accessible things to do in every part of the city.

We will:

- Continue to build on our successes- with more good or outstanding schools in Manchester than ever before
- Give young people the best start by investing in our Sure Start model and schemes like Read Manchester which gives children in the city free books
- Continue to make Manchester's children services a service the city can be proud of
- Invest more money in Youth Services – an extra half a million pound this year- so there are activities in every part of the city
- Give children a voice - building on Our Year as Manchester works to become a UNICEF Child friendly city
- Fund support for children facing poverty and reduce the numbers of children in poverty



**We will give young people
the best start by investing
in our Sure Start model**

A Healthy and Caring City

Manchester people made caring for those most in need in their number one priority, so it is the number one priority for Manchester Labour.

We want Manchester people to live longer, healthier, happier lives.

We will:

- Campaign to protect our NHS
- Help Manchester people recover from the COVID 19 pandemic
- Care Workers play a vital role: Increase pay for all care workers to at least the Real Living Wage
- Help people keep healthy and active through investing in leisure, sport and getting out and about, walking and cycling- with a new plan for walking and cycling
- Build on our work as an Age Friendly City
- Work with the NHS to invest in early intervention and prevention of ill health
- Invest to improve access to community mental health services



**We will campaign
to protect our NHS**

Thriving, Clean, green and safe neighbourhoods

We want Manchester to be the best place to live in the country and investing in our local neighbourhoods is just as important as the city centre for wellbeing and community pride. Residents want their streets to be cleaner, their roads to be safer and for parks and green spaces to be looked after, alongside investing in local services and activities to make sure there are lots of fun things to do.

We will:

- Draw up plans to invest in our local areas such as Wythenshawe Town Centre or many of our local district centres
- Invest more money into making our streets cleaner, expand Keep Manchester Tidy to reduce litter and an extra fund to tackle fly tipping and tackling perpetrators
- Increase recycling across the city
- Nurture our green lungs. Across the city we have 143 parks, we will continue to invest in our parks through ongoing funding and our additional £12million Parks Fund.
- We will create new parks and green spaces where we can, such as in the Lower Irk and Medlock valley, pocket parks and the £23million Mayfield Park- the first new public park in the city centre in over 100 years, or the work with the National Trust on the Castlefield Viaduct.
- Safer Streets and Tackling antisocial behaviour: The Tories cut 2,000 Officers from Greater Manchester Police. We will work with Labour Mayor Andy Burham to put more police back on our streets. We know that feeling safe is important, we will work with GMP to tackle anti-social behaviour in our communities and hold GMP to account on crime
- Improve road safety, investing in road safety measures alongside fixing our roads and footpaths
- Investing in our libraries and leisure centres: Manchester will protect and invest in our 22 libraries and 23 leisure centres across the city
- Continue to make sure Manchester leads the way as the UK's true capital of culture



A good and genuinely affordable home for all

Manchester is a rapidly growing city, with a young population and attracting people from across the country to call Manchester home. We need to make sure that we have the homes that people need. Everyone should have a safe and decent place to call home.

The Tory Government created a national housing crisis and made it difficult to build the affordable homes this country needs. Manchester Labour has a radical plan to build thousands of new council, social and genuinely affordable homes over the next decade, to help tackle the scandal of housing waiting lists and homelessness.

We will

- Launch a new housing strategy to build 10,000 new social and genuinely affordable homes in the next decade
- Call out the failed Government plan for 'affordable' housing and create Accessible rent levels: The Manchester Living Rent. No one should have to spend more than 30% of their income on their rent, and the Manchester Living Rent is capped at Local Housing Allowance rates
- Ramp up building Council Housing through This City. Two sites have been launched in the Northern Quarter and Ancoats, and we plan to build up to 500 Council homes per year
- Be a good landlord to the 15,600 council homes we manage and roll out our retrofit programme
- Tackle rogue landlords and the private rented sector through rolling out landlord licensing
- We will continue to stand up for all our residents impacted by the Fire Safety Crisis, and campaign for a fair solution from central government
- Ensure a bed is available for every rough sleeper every night
- Invested millions in homelessness services with a focus on prevention
- End the placement of families in temporary B&Bs and get them into permanent accommodation
- Continue to work with our partners through the Homelessness Charter, including homeless people themselves to ensure services meet their needs and those of the wider community



Build 10,000 new social & genuinely affordable homes over the next decade

A greener city

Manchester Labour must lead the way in tackling the climate crisis to make Manchester a sustainable and fairer city. From reducing emissions, tackling dirty air and preventing flooding in the future, action is needed now.

Manchester launched it's first plan for climate action in 2009, and since then has been at the forefront of action. But there is more to do. The recent action plan shows the council doing well in reducing it's own emissions, but there is still a significant way to go in reducing the emissions of the city as a whole.

A key part of reducing our emissions relies on a modern, integrated and resourced public transport system. Manchester Labour has been campaigning for control of the buses for many years and has been a strong supporter of Greater Manchester getting control of our bus network.

We will

- Invest £200m to deliver actions for a net zero city by 2038
- Refresh our Climate Action Plan and look to bring forward the Council's deadline for becoming zero carbon
- Introduce our plan to decarbonise all council buildings
- Invest in renewable energy; building on the Civic Quarter Heat Network, the council is looking at drastically expanding its renewable energy sources
- An ambitious plan for Planting New Trees with over 1,000 new trees planted a year
- Roll out our plans to retrofit homes and build net zero homes of the future, such as the UK's first net zero social housing built in Beswick
- Nurture our green lungs, invest in existing and build new parks and green spaces, expand Our City our rivers and our biodiversity commitment
- Work with communities to source new solutions and expand community initiatives
- Create a brand-new city-wide plan for more walking and cycling
- An integrated, affordable and well-run public bus system
- Invest in our rail and tram network



**We will invest in our
Rail and tram network**

Our promise to Manchester

A year ago, Manchester Labour published an ambitious election manifesto, setting out how, despite the cuts, we would work with our citizens to keep the City moving forward.

Twelve months later we can show that we are delivering on every single one of our pledges.

Now we are publishing an equally ambitious programme for the next twelve months and beyond.

We know that without a Labour Government we cannot do everything we want, everything you want. As this manifesto is being written, there is greater political uncertainty in the country than most of us can ever remember. But we will not allow an uncaring Tory Government and an out of touch Westminster to undermine everything we have achieved together over the last two decades. Manchester Labour will continue to listen, to stand up for Manchester people and to respond to the things you say are important. Working with and for the citizens of our great city, we will continue to build a Manchester that is fairer, healthier and better off in every way.

Join us on this journey. On May 5th vote Labour

VOTE LABOUR



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