

Bristol Mayoral Election

Thursday 6 May 2021

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 - What they say

bristol.gov.uk/elections2021



Bristol Mayoral Election

On Thursday 6 May 2021, electors in Bristol will be able to vote for the person they want to be Mayor of Bristol until 2024.

The elected Mayor leads the city council and its full range of services, and represents the interests of Bristol citizens. The elected Mayor's role is different to that of the Lord Mayor, whose role is ceremonial.

All polling stations will be safe places to vote, with all safety precautions in place in line with the latest Covid-19 guidance. We ask that you wear face coverings, sanitise your hands and socially distance. Please bring your own pen or pencil if you can.

About this booklet

This booklet must be sent to you by law*. It includes:

- information about the election
- an election address (ie: a statement) from each of the Mayoral candidates who wish to be included
- information on how to fill in your ballot paper and how the result is calculated
- frequently asked questions

Your vote is important in deciding who the future Mayor of Bristol is.

On the same day, you can also vote in three other elections:

- 1. Elections for all 70 Local Councillors for Bristol City Council**
- 2. An election for the Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner**
- 3. An election for the West of England Combined Authority Mayor**

If you are registered to vote, you will have received a poll card for all four elections.

Tim O'Gara, Returning Officer

*One booklet must be distributed to each registered elector. This booklet has been produced in accordance with The Local Authorities (Mayoral Elections) (England and Wales) Regulations 2007.

The Mayoral Candidates

There are nine candidates standing for Mayor of Bristol. Election addresses from seven of them appear in this booklet. All candidates are listed in alphabetical order below. This is the order in which they will appear on the ballot paper.

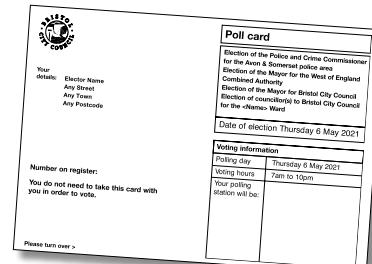
- **BALDWIN, Tom**
Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition
- **CLARKE, Robert Vernon**
Reform UK
- **DONNELLY, Sean Patrick**
Independent
- **GOOCH, Dr. Caroline**
Liberal Democrat
- **HORE-RUTHVEN, Sandy**
Green Party
- **LANGLEY, John**
Independent
- **REES, Marvin Jonathan**
Labour Party
- **SHAW, Oska Damon**
- **WATSON, Alastair Peter Lindsay**
The Conservative Party Candidate

The order in which the addresses of candidates appear in this booklet has been determined by the drawing of lots by the Returning Officer, in accordance with The Local Authorities (Mayoral Elections) (England and Wales) Regulations 2007.

Voting information

Every registered elector will receive an official poll card which will explain when, where and how to vote.

For details of your polling station, you can also visit bristol.gov.uk/elections2021 or call 0117 922 3400.



How to cast your vote

When you get to the polling station, you will receive four ballot papers. The grey ballot paper is for the Mayoral election. Postal voters will have this ballot paper in their pack.

This election uses the supplementary voting system. You will have two votes – one for your first choice candidate and one, if you wish, for your second choice candidate. The ballot paper will list all the candidates standing. Next to the list of candidates there will be two columns.

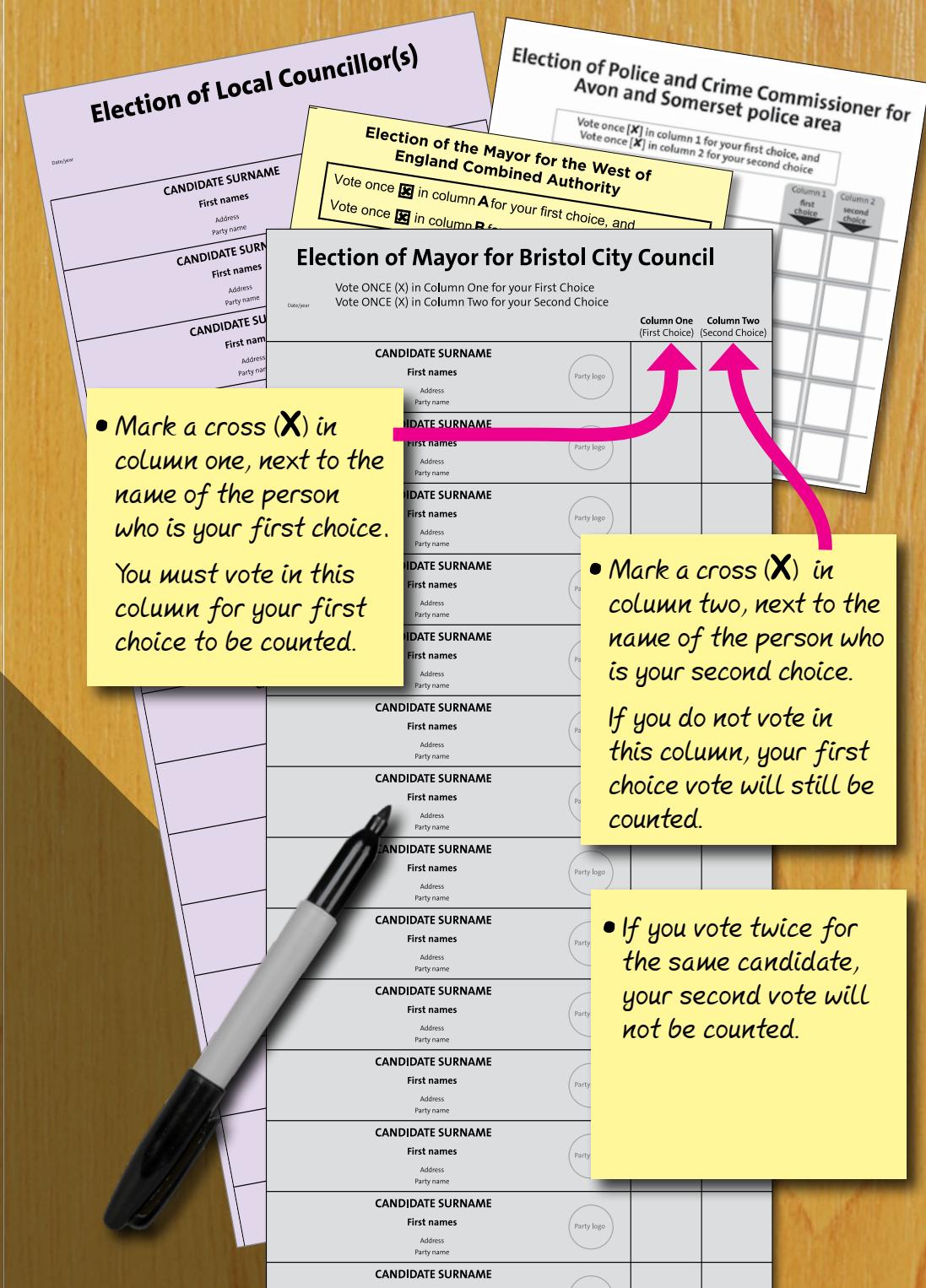
You will be asked to:

- Vote for your **first choice** candidate by marking a cross (X) in **column one**, and
- Vote for your **second choice** candidate by marking a cross (X) in **column two**.

You should not mark more than one cross in either column. If you have marked a first choice, you can choose whether or not to mark a second choice. If you only mark a cross in the column two, your vote will not be counted.

Other elections

You can also expect to see three other ballot papers – a violet one for the election of your Local Councillors, a white one for the election of the Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner and a yellow one for the West of England Combined Authority Mayor.



Three ways to vote

There are three ways to vote:

- **Polling station** – in person at the polling station listed on your poll card. Polling stations are open 7am–10pm and have safety precautions in place in line with the latest Covid-19 guidance.

You do not need to bring your poll card, but please bring your own pen or pencil.

- **Postal voting** – If you have registered for a postal vote, two packs will be delivered to your home from 21 April onwards. If you have not received them by **29 April**, email postalvotes@bristol.gov.uk or call our election helpline on **0117 922 3400**.

Follow the instructions in your postal vote packs, ensuring that you provide your signature and date of birth on the postal voting statement.

Please ensure that your completed postal ballot papers and postal voting statement are returned in the envelopes as soon as possible.



- **Proxy voting** – where someone can vote on your behalf either at your polling station or by post. You can find out more and apply at: bristol.gov.uk/proxyvoting

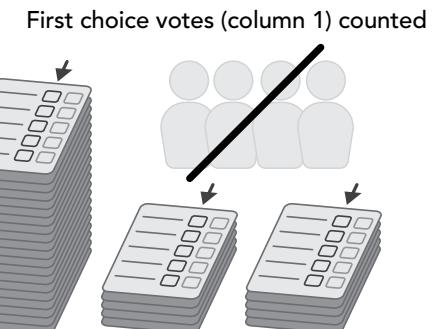
The deadline to apply to vote by proxy is **5pm on Tuesday 27 April**.

If after 5pm on Tuesday 27 April you find out you need a proxy because you are self-isolating visit: bristol.gov.uk/proxyvoting

Who is elected?

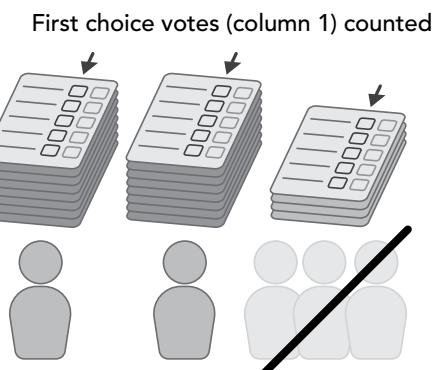
All the first choices are counted. If one candidate has received **more than 50%** of the votes they will be elected Mayor of Bristol.

50%+
Mayor of Bristol



If no candidate has more than 50% of the vote, the two candidates with the most first choice votes will remain in the election.

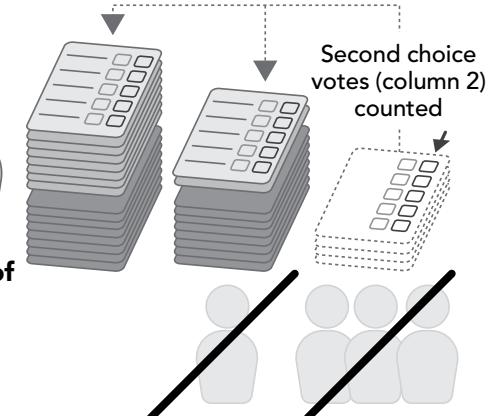
All other candidates are eliminated.



The ballot papers for the **eliminated candidates** are then checked. Any second choice votes for the two remaining candidates are added to their first round totals.

Mayor of Bristol

The candidate with the most votes wins.



Frequently asked questions

• Will it be safe to vote?

We have put Covid-19 secure measures in place to keep our polling stations safe to attend and vote. Please help keep them safe by wearing a face covering, sanitising your hands before attending, socially distancing and bringing your own pen or pencil.

• Why two votes for one Mayor?

The law states the voting process for the Mayoral elections must be done this way. It also allows you to say who would be your second choice for Mayor.

• What happens if I don't make a second choice?

Your first choice vote will still be counted.

• What happens if I only mark a cross (X) in the second choice column?

Your vote will not be counted because no-one will know who your preferred candidate was.

• What if I mark a cross (X) in the first choice column for more than one candidate?

Your vote will not be counted because no-one will know who your preferred candidate was.

If you wish to vote for two candidates, you must mark a cross (X) in **column one** for your first choice candidate and also a cross (X) in **column two** for your second choice candidate.

• When will the polling stations be open?

Polling stations will be open from 7am–10pm. The location of your polling station is printed on your poll card.

This may have changed since the last time you voted, so please look carefully at your poll card or check your polling station at: **bristol.gov.uk/pollingstations**

If there is a queue, you may want to come back at a less busy time to help with social distancing.

• What if I am self-isolating on polling day?

If you have Covid-19 symptoms or are self-isolating on polling day, please do not attend the polling station.

You can instead apply for an emergency proxy vote to appoint someone to go to your polling station and vote on your behalf. Completed applications must reach us by 5pm on 6 May.

For further information call our elections helpline on **0117 922 3400** or visit: **bristol.gov.uk/proxyvoting**

• I have lost my poll card, can I get another one?

If you are on the register, you don't need a poll card to vote, so another one won't be sent to you. You can attend the polling station and staff there will help you.

The poll card is just to inform you that there is an election and explain where your polling station is.

For help finding or identifying your polling station, please call our elections helpline on **0117 922 3400** or visit: **bristol.gov.uk/pollingstations**



- **Why has every voter in my household been sent a booklet?**

The law says that every registered voter must be sent their own copy, so they get a chance to see who the candidates are.

- **Where can I find out about other elections on the same day?**

For the election of Local Councillors, the Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner, and the West of England Combined Authority Mayor visit bristol.gov.uk/elections2021

You will receive a separate booklet with the candidates for the West of England Combined Authority Mayoral election.

Key dates



- **Postal vote packs start to arrive**

If you haven't received your packs by 29 April please email postalvotes@bristol.gov.uk and include your full name and address where you are registered to vote in Bristol. We can send you a new postal vote pack. Postal vote packs can only be reissued by law up to 5pm on polling day.



- **Last date for proxy vote request**

If you are a registered voter and you wish to apply for a new application to vote by proxy (someone to vote on your behalf), you must do this before **5pm on Tuesday 27 April**.

If after this time you find out you are unable to attend the polling station you may be able to apply for an emergency proxy. More information at: bristol.gov.uk/proxyvoting



- **Thursday 6 May, polling day**

You can vote from **7am–10pm** in person at your local polling station, which may have changed and is detailed on your poll card. Postal votes must be received by 10pm and can be dropped off at a polling station in your ward if necessary.



- **Election counts**

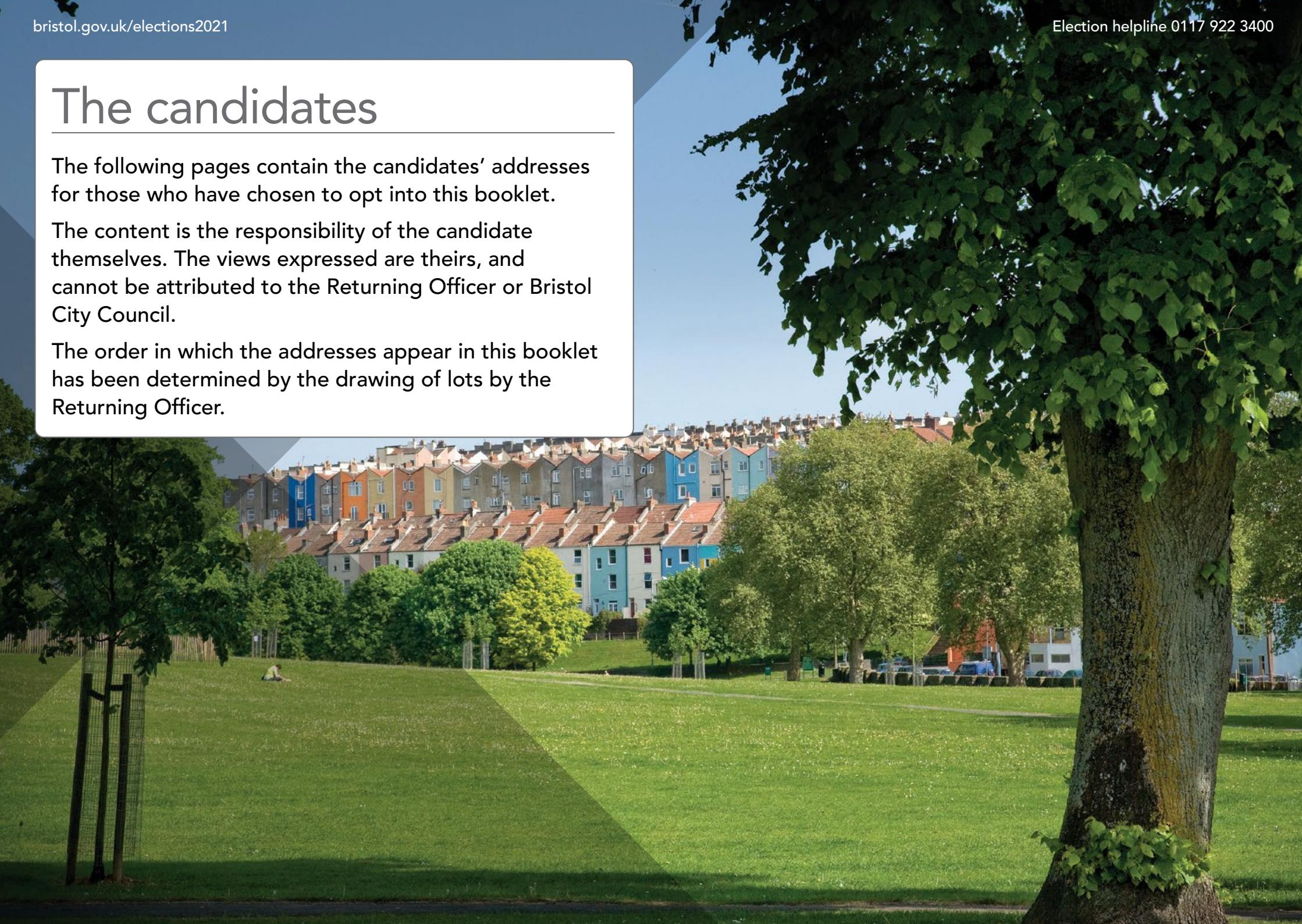
- **Friday 7 May:** Count for the election of the Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner.
- **Saturday 8 May:** Count for the elections of the West of England Combined Authority Mayor and the Mayor of Bristol.
- **Sunday 9 May:** Count for the election of Local Councillors.

The candidates

The following pages contain the candidates' addresses for those who have chosen to opt into this booklet.

The content is the responsibility of the candidate themselves. The views expressed are theirs, and cannot be attributed to the Returning Officer or Bristol City Council.

The order in which the addresses appear in this booklet has been determined by the drawing of lots by the Returning Officer.



Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition

Tom says: "The pandemic has exposed the huge injustices and the divide between workers and big business. We've had to fight for our safety as the bosses and government put profits first. Now we have to fight to protect jobs and services as they try to make us pay for the crisis.

"Bristol needs a mayor who will stand up for ordinary people. I stand for a socialist society run for people not profit."



TUSC AGAINST CUTS

The Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition organises to give a voice to working-class people who have been abandoned by the main parties. It includes the RMT union and the Socialist Party, of which Tom is a member.

Tom is 37 and lives in Ashton. He is an active trade unionist and campaigner.

Public election meeting

Wednesday 5 May, 7.30pm
Zoom ID: 822 5761 2293
Phone in on 020 3481 5237

Candidate	1st preference	2nd preference
TOM BALDWIN Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition	X	
Vote socialist first preference You also have a second preference vote in this election		X

Contact Tom

- 07986 951 527
- tomobaldwin@gmail.com
- Tusc.org.uk
- Socialistparty.org.uk
- fb.com/TUSCBristol

BRISTOL NEEDS A FIGHTBACK

Defend jobs and services – Vote Tom Baldwin

A socialist mayor for the millions, not the millionaires

If elected Tom will...

- Build a mass united struggle of workers and young people to win back the council funding taken by the government
- Reverse all cuts to council jobs and services, move budgets based on Bristol's needs
- Oppose and reverse outsourcing and privatisation
- Never increase council tax, rents and charges faster than wages rise
- Push for a publicly owned, top quality and affordable public transport network, run for need not profit
- Address the housing crisis by building thousands of council homes and capping private rents
- Defend the right to peaceful protest
- Fight for decent jobs. Support all campaigns to protect safety, jobs, pay and conditions, including strike action by workers
- Stand for jobs and homes for all. Oppose racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia and all other forms of oppression and division
- Only take the average wage of a worker in the city, not the inflated £79,000 mayoral salary

DELIVERING FOR BRISTOL

BUILDING A CITY OF HOPE



It is an honour to serve as Mayor of Bristol, the city I am proud to be from and where I am bringing up my family.

Together we have led Bristol in the face of the pandemic, economic downturn, social change and instability, and climate change, with the added uncertainty of Brexit. Many of us have experienced real loss this year, as people have come together like never before to support each other.

Working with partners all over Bristol, we are building a city where nobody is left behind underpinning our ambition with compassion and our commitment to sustainability. We are focused on protecting and creating jobs, and delivering for residents, we are creating jobs by bringing employers like Channel 4 to our city, bringing hundreds of millions of pounds worth of investment into Bristol, and delivering our mass transit system.

Together, against the odds, we are making a difference.

On 6 May, we are proudly standing on our record of delivery - including all our 2016 pledges and more. With your support, we can all keep building a more sustainable, inclusive, and ambitious Bristol: our City of Hope. (*see opposite*)

Marvin Rees, Mayor of Bristol

- 9,000 new homes, tripling affordable house-building, rough sleeping down 80%**
- 12,000 work experiences and £9m for south Bristol construction skills centre**
- 99 new biogas buses, RPZ fees frozen, 75 miles of segregated cycleways**
- Kept all our libraries and children's centres open**
- Building new schools, creating mental health training and free breakfast clubs**
- Best core city for recycling, deep-cleaned 700 streets, planted 60,000 trees**
- Won Channel 4 relocation, invested in sport and leisure centres - giving control to communities**

- Building our underground, with free travel for apprentices and students
- Protecting jobs and building a Living Wage city
- Investing £1 billion in clean energy and doubling our trees
- Investing in more schools and quality work experience
- Building 2,000 new homes a year - 1,000 affordable
- Investing in social care, helping older people stay in their homes



Rights for Nature Campaign

My name is Oska Shaw. I was born on Orkney and grew up near Brighton. I am a drama student at UWE. I am a veggie, enjoy punk music and love to ride motorcycles.

Equality of rights and opportunities matter a great deal to me. Access to nature is essential for our wellbeing, but such access is anything but equal. Protecting our natural world is therefore immensely important, even if we live in the midst of the city. Politicians need to act to ensure the future of our natural world and be involved **at a local level**. When I heard that important trees in St Paul's were under threat from a developer's axe I simply had to act, and so joined the Save the M32 Maples campaign to fight for their protection.

Rights for trees and green spaces

We are rightly proud of our Green City but, sadly, we are losing our mature trees and green spaces at an alarming rate. In our city centre, magnificent mature trees are being felled, and office and housing blocks crammed into ever smaller plots to maximise the profits of developers. This is being enabled by a council unwilling to apply its own planning policies, creating high density concrete slums of the future. The worst affected areas are those most deprived areas with the lowest tree cover, the poorest air quality and the worst public health. The residents of the wealthier areas of Bristol benefit from 25% tree cover, whereas St Paul's has a mere 6.5%, and falling. This exposes our most disadvantaged communities to **environmental discrimination**, with the poor physical and mental health that goes with that.

I applaud the council's planting programmes, and its goal to **double tree canopy by 2046**. However, with the current loss of mature trees, achieving this goal is now very unlikely. Most trees planted are tiny saplings which will not replace the lost trees for many decades, and most are planted in the outskirts of the city, not where they are most needed. A single mature tree represents over 20,000 saplings, and to recover the value within 10 years would need hundreds of saplings planted for each tree felled.

Planning policies are already in place to fully protect trees and green spaces, but the planning office often choose to ignore these and allow trees to be felled even when this could be avoided. Instead, we plan to



protect our trees and green spaces by fully implementing current policy protections and immediately enacting the principles of the Environment Bill.

With the repurposing of retail space in the centre of Bristol, we can address the housing crisis whilst creating an inner city garden community that people actually want to live in, and not simply forced to because they can't afford to move elsewhere. This is the kind of vision lacking in Bristol at the moment, planning a better future for ALL its citizens.

What do we propose?

- Give trees the full protection of current planning policies.
- Trees with a Preservation Order given more rights.
- Immediately implement the principles of the upcoming Environment Bill, giving greater protection for trees and green spaces.
- Incorporate mature trees and green space as part of a development.
- Mitigate unavoidable tree loss according to biodiversity net gain.
- Developers pay a biodiversity levy of the true value of lost trees.
- Consult with local communities before felling street trees and automatically replace any street tree felled.
- Prosecute when trees are removed or damaged illegally.

There are many examples where the planning office has failed to enforce the legal protections given to nature and people. I will ensure that illegal actions by greedy or unscrupulous developers will not be disregarded.

I also advocate a referendum on the future of the Mayoral system. Many feel that local democracy has suffered, and we propose to give the people of Bristol a choice on this issue.

I commend Bristol's declaration of a Climate Emergency and an Ecological Emergency, but lament the lack of effective action. I will act where others have postured, putting nature, climate, ecology and biodiversity at the core of my policies and in accordance with the principles of the proposed Climate and Ecological Emergency bill. I will work towards creating a carbon neutral economy, meet community needs, build decent housing whilst preserving our valuable trees and green spaces, improving our air quality, and ensure that people have a voice no matter their postcode, wealth, ethnicity, gender or age. Let us build towards a better future for all our citizens, with a vision and ambition for a better world!

This statement has been prepared by the candidate's agent, Anne Hughes-Deveraux, 2 Tyne St, BS2 9UA on behalf of Oska Shaw.



ALASTAIR WATSON SAYS “IT’S TIME TO SCRAP THE CITY MAYOR”

In 2012 Bristol voted to have a Mayor. It was hoped that this change would provide better leadership and stability. It hasn't.

Instead the City has reeled from one crisis to another. £50m wasted on the energy company, housing targets missed, the Colston Hall refurbishment to cost another £50m - the list goes on and on.

I want to change this. Conservatives are committed to holding a referendum to scrap the City Mayor and bring accountability back to the City Hall rather than this form of unaccountable dictatorship. **Vote Conservative to secure a better future for Bristol.**

VOTE FOR ALASTAIR WATSON

Alastair is a former City Councillor and Lord Mayor of Bristol. He has lived in Bristol for over 30 years, where he has worked and brought up a family.

As an experienced businessman he will ensure that local tax payers get value for money for Council services.



Alastair's Pledges:

- Stop the waste at City Hall.** I will ensure every pound of your taxes is used properly.
- Support the Police.** I will work with the Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Commissioner to bring back order for the law-abiding citizens of Bristol.
- Deliver more affordable housing.** I will work in partnership with housing developers to bring forward developments that provide affordable housing for key workers.
- Better transport for Bristol.** I will work with neighbouring authorities and the Regional Mayor to deliver more rail links, better bus services and improved infrastructure for active travel.
- Referendum on the City Mayoral system.** I will campaign to give you a vote on whether to scrap the City Mayor.

So on Thursday 6th May, your vote will decide whether we maintain the status quo or secure a better future for Bristol.



**RECOVER.
THRIVE.**

SANDY FOR MAYOR

SANDY - A BRISTOL SUCCESS STORY

I've been a Chief Exec for 15 years, growing a tiny charity to Britain's largest of its type for young people. I've won millions in investment for Bristol and turned derelict city buildings into thriving business hubs.

MY ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN

Bouncing back from the pandemic will be my immediate focus

CHAMPION THE ECONOMY

When times are tough we must take bold decisions. I'll back Bristol business, and robustly present the city's needs to the UK government.

NOBODY LEFT BEHIND

I'll double support for young people finding work and seek a Bristol Basic Income pilot to provide security for all. I'll help those struggling the most.

BEAT COVID

I'll work to get Covid under control and help our city thrive.

INVEST LOCALLY

I'll direct Bristol's buying power to support local business, invest £10m in local high streets and create 10,000 jobs by building and insulating council homes.

GET BRISTOL MOVING

We're all sick of Bristol's congestion. I'll pedestrianise the old city, halve bus fares for u21s and make green and active travel the convenient choice.

BEAT THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

I'm tired of nice words but no action. Want Green? Vote Green.



#SANDY4MAYOR

[sandy4bristolmayor](#)

[@sandyhruthven](#)

[sandy4mayor.co.uk](#)



LET'S ELECT SANDY

Because the voting system for Mayor is fairer, **the Green Party can win in Bristol.**

You get two votes – a first for your favourite candidate, and a second safety vote that is counted if your favourite doesn't win.

#1 First for your **Favourite**

#2 Second for **Safety**

VOTE FOR A NEW MAYOR DONNELLY



WE WILL MAKE BRISTOL GERT AGAIN

I am Sean Donnelly, and I am running as an independent for Mayor of the great City of Bristol.

Bristol born with Irish heritage, I have lived in the city all my life and am a local business owner. I run a group of pubs, all within the city boundary.

I see and hear our customers' concerns every day, and with what I have seen happening in Bristol over recent years especially, has inspired me to run for this prestigious post.

I really feel that this is the time for a local business candidate, whose primary aim would be for the good of Bristol and for real Bristolians, and is not constrained by the national policies of the main parties.

Bristol, like many other big cities, has its own unique and individual issues that simply cannot be addressed nationally.

WE WILL make Bristol a better place to live, work and visit.

WE WILL open up Bristol City Centre to expose the River Frome

In two phases, WE WILL open up the docks to water again.

No more short-term thinking or cheap options like the present, this area will be not just for now, but for the future generations of Bristolians who will thank us like we thank Isambard for his foresight and gifts to us.

We will bring in tall ships, have boardwalks with bars and restaurants and maybe even a new central home for the Matthew.

Brunel's Other Bridge (did you know it existed?)

will be relocated from Cumberland Basin, restored and will cross the newly opened River Frome not only to be appreciated as another great tourist attraction, but also for everyday Bristolian use.

WE WILL create a new more appropriate Cenotaph Square, moving the existing memorial away from its existing concrete jungle and skateboard park to its own paved park with grass areas, ponds with fountains and trees. The quieter area in the heart of the vibrant new city centre.

WE WILL re-build the riverside area of 'Mary le Port'

A vibrant area blitzed in the war and then blitzed by our planners in the sixties and seventies, we will re-create this vibrancy as a great extension to the Old City area and link to Castle Park and the shopping areas in Broadmead.

We could soon be walking up the narrow cobbles of Bridge Street, visiting the The Raven Hotel for a pint in Mary le Port Street and even a visit to the re-built Dutch House on the corner of High Street and Wine Street.

Castle Park will also be revitalised with better children's play areas, quiet areas, outdoor gyms and maybe even a floodlit skateboard park to give the boarders a new home away from the Cenotaph.

WE WILL look seriously at a Bristol Underground rapid transport system

If our great city is to keep growing and stay one of the major power houses in the UK, and if we really do want to become a greener city, we need to be able to transport our citizens around. We have looked into this, and will be carrying out a full feasibility study.

In the meantime, WE WILL sort out our current transport issues

WE WILL have a concert arena/exhibition centre in Bristol

Check out some of our plans on Twitter **@BristolBetter**

Statement prepared by agent: Steve Brown 19, The Brambles, Hartcliffe Bristol BS13 0TB

Caroline Gooch

The people of Bristol have been failed by the Mayoral system.



As a scientist, I work on evidence, and the evidence is clear: too much money has been wasted, and not enough put into our local communities. City Mayors can do as they please, overruling council and community views.

Too much power in the hands of one person hinders democracy and accountability. That's why I'm campaigning to Scrap the Mayor.

A vote for me is a vote for Bristol's final Mayor; I will back a mayoral referendum, and campaign to end my job.

Whatever happens, the next Mayor will remain in position until 2024, so I have a plan for leading the city recovery from the pandemic over 3 years.

A handwritten signature of Caroline Gooch.

Caroline Gooch

Liberal Democrat Candidate for Bristol Mayor
for a fairer, greener, more caring Bristol

www.bristollibdems.org/caroline

Vote **Caroline Gooch** 1st for Mayor on May 6th

Caroline Gooch



(First)	(Second)
X	

A vote for Caroline is a ...



PUT DEMOCRACY FIRST

Devolve power to local communities, end the secrecy.

Work side by side with our neighbours, and never overrule a majority council decision.



MAKE OUR CITY GREENER

Reduce our carbon footprint, invest in sustainable public transport, tackle waste, promote cycling and walking, and clean up our air and waterways.



PRIORITISE SEND PROVISION

Ensure Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) EHCP applications are dealt with by named caseworkers within the 20 week deadline.

Guarantee every child a school place, and ensure all school SENCOs are fully trained and supported.



Published and Promoted by C Allard on behalf of C Gooch both at 26, Chantry Road, Bristol, BS8 2QD.

... vote for Bristol's **FINAL** Mayor



Bristol Wards

These are the wards that make up the area for the Bristol Mayoral election.





Published by:

Tim O'Gara
Returning Officer
Electoral Services
Bristol City Council
B Bond Warehouse (5th Floor)
Smeaton Road
Bristol BS1 6XN

Need more help?

- bristol.gov.uk/elections2021
- electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter
- Email: electoral.services@bristol.gov.uk
- Election helpline: 0117 922 3400

If you require this information in a different format, please contact us on **0117 922 3400** or electoral.services@bristol.gov.uk



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