DRAFT - Active Bristol Framework for Change

Public Consultation version, November 2026

The Active Bristol Framework for Change describes how we will work together to achieve the vision of the Active Bristol Strategy over the next 10 years.

Vision: A Bristol where being active is easy, enjoyable and part of everyday life, regardless of who you are or where you live.

The strategy sets out our priorities and the outcomes we want to achieve. This Framework focuses on the 5 ways of working that will help make those changes happen.

It is designed for anyone who has a role in helping Bristol become a more active city, including communities, voluntary organisations, public services, charities, businesses and decision-makers. Individual organisations can use this Framework to guide their own planning, decision-making and delivery. By applying it collectively, we can create a more joined-up approach across Bristol, align our efforts and increase our impact.

The framework is not a detailed action plan. Instead, it provides a shared approach based on our 5 Ways of Working. The 5 Ways of Working are interconnected. Lasting change happens when we develop people and leadership (Being), improve understanding (Thinking), build trust (Relating), work together (Collaborating) and take action (Acting).

The examples included are not a checklist. They show the types of activities that can help bring the strategy to life. They can be used by individual organisations, partnerships or across the wider system. Not every organisation will do everything, but everyone can contribute.

Everyone has a role to play. Lasting change will happen when people, communities and organisations take responsibility, learn together and are willing to work differently.

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Our Commitment

The Active Bristol Framework for Change is intended to evolve.

As we learn, build relationships and better understand what helps people move more and be active, we will continue to refine our approach. By sharing learning and applying these ways of working together, we can strengthen our collective impact over time.

Way of working	We will	What this could look like
Being Confident leadership and shared ownership	**Develop leadership across Bristol** We will support people from different sectors and communities to develop the confidence and skills needed to influence change. **Build confidence to work differently** We will encourage people to explore new approaches, work across traditional boundaries and embrace learning. **Create opportunities to learn together** We will create spaces where people can discuss challenges, share ideas and build understanding. **Make reflection part of how we work** We will regularly review what is working, what is not and what we need to do differently.	• Community leadership programmes. • Peer learning networks. • Systems leadership training. • Cross-sector learning events. • Reflection sessions built into strategy groups and partnerships. • Mentoring and coaching opportunities. • Clear communications plan. • Developing shared language.
Thinking Better use of evidence, insight and learning	**Use a wide range of evidence** We will use and connect research, local data and community insight, and develop a central way to share this openly. **Improve understanding of movement inequalities** We will build a shared understanding of why some people face greater barriers to being active and what approaches are most effective to address them. **Look beyond sport and physical activity** We will recognise the influence of transport, planning, housing, education, health, care and the wider environment. **Stay curious and adapt** We will continue learning from evidence, local experience and what is working in other places, and be willing to change our approach when required.	• Joint analysis of data and community feedback. • Insight reports that combine statistics and local stories. • Learning events based on emerging evidence. • Insight and learning flowing, both ways, between communities, organisations and decision makers. • Mapping how different factors affect opportunities to move. • Adapting proven approaches from other places to meet local needs. • Using evaluation findings to improve programmes and focus investment.

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Relating Greater trust and community influence	**Listen and learn from communities** We will invest time in understanding people's experiences and perspectives. **Strengthen new and existing relationships** We will build on trusted relationships and community networks already operating across Bristol and connect with others to widen reach. **Reach people who are less often heard** We will actively seek different perspectives and experiences. **Increase community influence** We will ensure community voices help shape priorities and decisions. **Be transparent and accountable** We will be open about how decisions are made, how community feedback is used, and where community influence has shaped outcomes.	• Community listening activities. • Paid opportunities for people to share expertise through lived experience. • Training on how different experiences affect experiences of physical activity. • Co-design workshops. • Community advisory groups, including young people. • Resident panels. • "You Said, We Did" updates. • Participatory decision-making processes. • Network mapping. • Decision makers spending more time in communities.
Collaborating Better coordination between organisations	**Build partnerships around shared challenges** We will create connections between organisations that may not traditionally work together. **Align existing activity** We will connect related programmes, partnerships and strategies so they work better together. **Create shared ownership** We will encourage organisations and communities to share leadership and responsibility for achieving the outcomes of the Active Bristol Strategy. **Connect movement to everyday life** We will help more sectors understand their role in creating opportunities to move.	• Cross-sector workshops. • Partnerships between schools, health and care services and community organisations. • Closer work with transport and planning teams. • Sharing resources (funding, spaces, knowledge, influence) more openly. • Shared priorities across One City Boards, WECA and city-wide partnerships. • Collaborative projects focused on reducing inequalities.

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Acting More collective action and innovation	**Start somewhere** We will encourage practical action at every level. **Test and learn** We will trial new ideas and learn from the results. **Adapt and improve** We will use learning to refine and strengthen our approach. **Share stories of change** We will celebrate success, learning and innovation.	• Community-led pilot projects. • Local activity campaigns. • Tools to support reflection. • Storytelling training and support. • Shared learning from projects and partnerships.

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