



Area Committees

Local Community Infrastructure Levy / Section 106

Annual Report 2025-2026

Contents

Introduction	2
1. Executive Summary & Key Stats	3
Local CIL Equity Fund.....	3
Local CIL by Area Committee.....	3
Who’s delivering the projects.....	4
2.Funded projects	5
3. Mapping local CIL and S106 projects	7
4. The impact of local CIL.....	8
5. Community Workshops.....	11
6. Key Learnings and Future Plans	12
7. Links to more information.....	12

Introduction

As part of our committee model of governance, Bristol has nine area committees who make decisions on [how local funds are spent](#) to support improvements in their area. Meeting twice a year, area committees are made up of the local councillors, who use their knowledge of their local communities to make decisions.

In 2025-2026, Bristol City Council strengthened the way local people influence investment in their neighbourhoods, following changes made in 2024, when the council expanded the system from six to nine Area Committees.

To make funding fairer, the local CIL Equity Fund was introduced, which sets aside a portion of local CIL to support areas that receive less development but often have greater need for investment.

A new team was also created to support this expansion, focusing on area committees, helping improve engagement, coordination, and communication across the city.

This year community workshops were held in every committee area, bringing councillors, local people, and council officers together to collaborate, share ideas and find practical solutions to issues facing neighbourhoods. To make decision-making more accessible, Area Committee meetings have been held in community venues, helping to break down barriers to participation and ensuring more people can get involved.

It has been a year of learning and improvement. The contributions of, and collaboration between councillors, colleagues, community groups, and volunteers have been greatly appreciated.

Thanks to this collective effort, 2025-2026 saw investment across all nine Area Committees, supporting community buildings, parks, youth spaces, cultural projects, safety improvements and more, helping build stronger, more resilient and better-connected communities across Bristol.

1. Executive Summary & Key Stats

Here's a summary of how Area Committees distributed local funds in 2025:

Funding source	Amount
Local CIL	£1,884,226.41
Local CIL Equity Fund	£242,480.93
Other funding sources	£50,000.00
Section 106	£16,568.94
TOTAL	£2,193,276.28

Local CIL Equity Fund

The local CIL Equity Fund was established in 2024 to support the equitable distribution of local Community Infrastructure Levy funds across the city, recognising that some neighbourhoods receive less local CIL due to lower amounts of development taking place. Projects in areas of high deprivation or being led by a local equalities group are eligible to receive money through the local CIL Equity Fund.

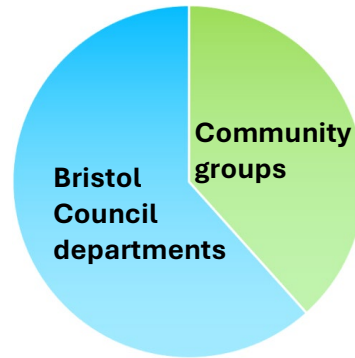
Local CIL by Area Committee

Area Committee	Local CIL pot on 30 Sept 25	Amount allocated
1: Avonmouth & Lawrence Weston, Henbury & Brentry, Southmead, Horfield	£90,065.51	£90,065.52
2: Stoke Bishop, Westbury-on-Trym & Henleaze, Redland, Bishopston & Ashley Down	£58,140.15	£26,750.00
3: Cotham, Clifton, Clifton Down, Hotwells & Harbourside	£103,861.02	£75,200.00
4: Central, Ashley, Lawrence Hill, Easton	£1,492,702.23	£1,204,740.68
5: Lockleaze, Eastville, Frome Vale, Hillfields	£93,639.52	£73,300.00
6: St George West, St George Central, St George Troopers Hill	£12,276.20	£12,276.20
7: Southville, Windmill Hill, Filwood, Bedminster	£76,872.76	£101,280.00
8: Bishopsworth, Hartcliffe & Withywood, Hengrove & Whitchurch Park	£21,838.23	£14,280.00
9: Brislington East, Brislington West, Knowle, Stockwood	£70,941.54	£136,334.01

37% of the funds awarded (£819,820.46) went to projects in Bristol's most deprived areas.

Some projects will be delivered by Bristol City Council departments. This is usually where the project is on BCC-owned land, such as Parks or Housing. The department will draw up a plan to deliver the project, consulting the community where appropriate. Other projects are delivered by community groups.

£841,712.62 (38% of funding) was awarded to community organisations to deliver, while £1,351,563.66 (62% of funding) went to Bristol City Council departments as the delivery body.



Split of funding for local CIL and S106 projects in 2025.

Who is delivering the projects



Community groups

33 projects
£841,712.62



Parks

24 projects
£732,753.86



Parks together with Housing

4 projects
£263,300.00



Libraries

2 projects
£89,080.00



Highways

3 projects
£80,999.12



Harbour Authority

2 projects
£127,750.00



Community Safety

1 project
£44,080.68



Housing

1 project
£7,600.00



Waste

1 project
£6,000.00

2. Funded projects

Local CIL and S106 funding have enabled a huge range of different projects across Bristol, enabling important improvements such as community centre upgrades, enhancements to parks, and improved disabled access to public spaces.

Here are some headline figures about the types of projects funded in 2025, and some examples.



Construction phase of new development

Community spaces

Local CIL is funding improvements to valued community spaces, libraries, and a local swimming pool. This ranges from new roofs, windows, floors, energy efficiency improvements, and better accessibility. This includes contributions to the building of a new scout community centre in Stoke Bishop, replacing an old wooden hut, creating a new hub for the area.

Green Spaces

Local CIL is funding improvements to existing parks and green spaces, new or repurposed park spaces, improvements for wildlife and biodiversity, and supporting accessibility with new pathways and benches. This includes new accessible pathways for Redcatch Community Garden in Knowle, and a new wildlife area in Gores Marsh Park.



Community litter pick at Gores Marsh



Safety and Public Realm

Local CIL is funding improved waste facilities, street lighting, a footway parking prevention scheme, deployable CCTV units and new bike stands, helping local people get around and feel safer in their communities.

This includes new or improved lighting across Manor Farm, in Gainsborough Square, and Newtown Park.

Culture and Connection

Local CIL is funding new murals, improvements to cultural monuments and spaces, new noticeboards, and sculptures, supporting local identity and community cohesion.

This includes new murals for Dove Street in Kingsdown, reflecting the community's multicultural identity, as well as a locally designed structures welcoming people to Trooper's Hill and St Annes Valley.

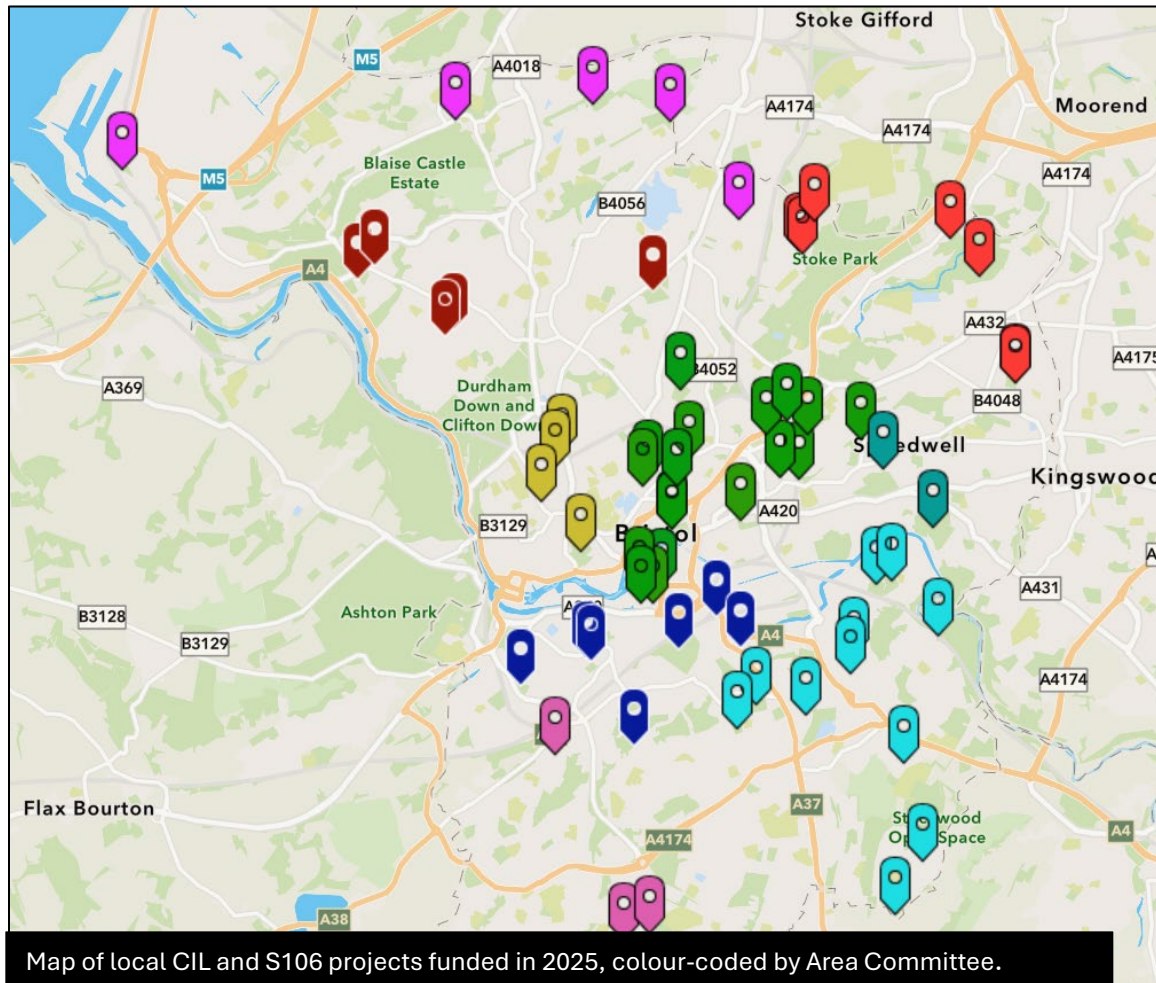


Play and Young People

Local CIL is funding new or improved play areas, improvements to youth centres, and the expansion of a new youth careers hub. This work supports a network of infrastructure for young people to access across Bristol.

This includes improvements to playground equipment for the adventure playground at The Vench in Lockleaze, supporting family wellbeing through play.

3. Mapping local CIL and S106 projects



For all projects each Area Committee has funded since 2018, please click below:

- [Area Committee 1](#): Avonmouth & Lawrence Weston, Henbury & Brentry, Southmead, Horfield
- [Area Committee 2](#): Stoke Bishop, Westbury-on-Trym & Henleaze, Redland, Bishopston & Ashley Down
- [Area Committee 3](#): Cotham, Clifton, Clifton Down, Hotwells & Harbourside
- [Area Committee 4](#): Central, Ashley, Lawrence Hill, Easton
- [Area Committee 5](#): Lockleaze, Eastville, Frome Vale, Hillfields
- [Area Committee 6](#): St George West, St George Central, St George Troopers Hill
- [Area Committee 7](#): Southville, Windmill Hill, Filwood, Bedminster
- [Area Committee 8](#): Bishopsworth, Hartcliffe & Withywood, Hengrove & Whitchurch Park
- [Area Committee 9](#): Brislington East, Brislington West, Knowle, Stockwood

4. The impact of local CIL

Local CIL can have significant impact on the projects, places and communities receiving funding. It can boost accessibility, address local issues and invest in the things that bring people together and make lives better. Below are some stories about what can be achieved when local people and organisations work together with their councillors to identify priority projects that deliver local improvements.

Creating an accessible community space at St Stephen's Church in Brislington

The accessible toilet at St Stephen's Church in Brislington was not fit for purpose and meant people with limited mobility struggled to access the variety of community groups hosted in the church hall.

The church worked closely with their local councillor to discuss refurbishing and upgrading the toilet, with the aim of making a well-used community asset accessible to all local people.

The Church's volunteer team completed their funding application and coordinated the project, which was completed in 2025.

"We would like to thank you for your support throughout the process. We initially started with an attitude of 'there's no harm in trying for funding' so to finally see the visualisation realised is great. Feedback is very positive and using the facilities for members of the church and community is a much more pleasant experience. As a team of volunteers, juggling day jobs, families and other responsibilities with trying to make St Christopher's a more inclusive community venue is a challenge, but we are thrilled that we are a step closer."

Jen Cave-Ayland, St Christopher's Church

The project was such a success that in 2025, they successfully applied for a further £15,000 from their committee to upgrade the kitchen, allowing them to continue running cookery workshops and community luncheons.

Strengthening community emergency response across the city – Great Western Air Ambulance

In 2024, the Great Western Air Ambulance Charity (GWAAC) received over £90,000 from four of Bristol’s Area Committees.

The funding was used to install 53 defibrillators and deliver associated training. GWAAC trained 9,684 people in CPR and defibrillator use, including more than 6,600 school students, hundreds of business staff, and over a thousand residents at community events. This surge in training is helping to build confident first responders in every neighbourhood with a defibrillator.

The organisation used a specialist mapping tool to identify priority areas to install the equipment, focusing on high-risk locations and reaching places such as busy parks, alleyways, and community venues that previously had no access to a device.

These defibrillators are already making a difference: more than 30 of the defibrillators installed through this project have been deployed more than 35 times in 999 emergencies, giving at least 15 people the best possible chance of survival before paramedics arrived.

One example is at Oldbury Court in Fishponds. In 2024, a member of the public suffered cardiac arrest outside the park café, but there was no nearby defibrillator. The community and GWAAC acted quickly, and with local CIL funding a new device was installed in January 2025. Just a couple of months later, it was used in another emergency, this time helping to save a life.

Kate, the volunteer guardian for the device, said:

“Since installation, the defibrillator has been used twice in emergency incidents, proving its worth to everyone in the park and the immediate community.”



The project is supported by more than 50 volunteers who check each device monthly, keeping them “emergency ready” all year round. In 2025 alone, volunteers dedicated around 700 hours to maintaining this growing network. The success of the project has inspired other air ambulance charities.

Strengthening Bristol's Youth Club Network – Young Bristol

Young Bristol is a leading provider of community-based youth services. They work through their community youth club network, with venues based across Bristol, to provide a variety of clubs and activities for young people. This includes outdoor activities, holiday clubs and informal educational opportunities.



Refurbished sports hall at BS14 Youth Club.
Source; BS14 Youth Club

The organisation has accessed local CIL funding to support improvements to six of their venues since 2021, with 10 individual projects funded through their Area Committees. Projects have ranged from building maintenance to installing outdoor gym equipment and the refurbishment of a media room.

The projects have improved the financial sustainability of the organisation's youth clubs, enabling spaces to be used by the wider community and creating new income streams, as well as raising the profile of Young Bristol's charitable work.

Young Bristol's success in engaging with Area Committees and accessing local CIL has encouraged other centres run by the organisation to consider applying, improving the network of local infrastructure and safe community spaces for young people in Bristol.

This year, Young Bristol has received further funding to support projects at Sea Mills Boys and Girls Club, Manor Farm Boys Club, and BS14 Youth Club, across three Area Committees.



Hartcliffe Library. Source: Bristol City Council

Hartcliffe Library receives Equity Funding

Hartcliffe and Withywood is in Area Committee 8, which in 2025 had around £20,000 to allocate to local projects. The local CIL Equity Fund enabled the realisation of a long-standing ambition to relocate Hartcliffe Library to Symes Resource Centre.

The £86,000 accessed via the fund will mean the library can locate itself alongside community and wellbeing services offered by the Hartcliffe and Withywood Community Partnership in the centre.

Renovating the centre and moving the library to the front of the building will allow greater visibility and easier access to library services. This creates a space where local people can drop-in and use the library and the services and support available within the building, with the aim of improving the quality of life for people in the area.

5. Community Workshops

This year community workshops were introduced and held in every Area Committee. With support and facilitation by the Community Development team, the workshops brought residents together with local councillors and officers from BCC departments. This enabled collaborative discussions about local priorities and ideas for local CIL funding, helping to develop realistic proposals together.

Each workshop enabled councillors and officers to hear from local people and support them in identifying possible projects that can be funded by local CIL, both in the public realm and VCSE sector. The workshops have received positive feedback from attendees. They have strengthened existing relationships and created ways for people unfamiliar with the process to engage in a meaningful way.

We will continue developing opportunities for people to engage in local decision-making via Area Committees. We will work to improve our reach out to different communities to ensure representative voices shape local CIL proposals and influence funding decisions. We will also work to ensure these engagement opportunities are rotated around locations in areas of the committee boundary, to make it easier for people to attend.



6. Key Learnings and Future Plans

Throughout the year, we have made improvements to the local CIL/S106 process.

We have:

- Worked more closely with other BCC departments to adjust the process and improve working across functions.
- Improved communication through the BCC website, story maps for each Area Committee, newsletters, and supporting community connector organisations.
- Introduced online area committee meetings for improved information sharing.
- Moved to holding meetings in community venues, helping to remove barriers and create more accessible and collaborative spaces for decision making. This has made public engagement easier and more welcoming.
- Introduced the local Equity Fund, which sets aside 15% of Bristol's local CIL budget, to support neighbourhoods that face the highest levels of deprivation or have received the least local CIL investment in recent years. It distributes funding more fairly across the city by prioritising projects in disadvantaged areas and supporting equalities-led organisations that serve underrepresented communities. Each year, councillors identify priority proposals and the final decisions are made by the Public Health and Communities Committee.

7. Links to more information

[Decision making in your area](#) for more information about local CIL/S106 and how decisions are made, how to take part in the process, and your local community connector organisations.

[Find your councillor](#) to find details of your local ward councillor(s) and find out more about their role.

[ModernGov - bristol.gov.uk](#) for information about previous and upcoming area committee meetings including area committees.

Please contact communities@bristol.gov.uk for more information.