



## **Cost of Living Crisis**

# **Bristol's One City approach to support citizens and communities**

*October 2022*

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# Foreword

In the record-breaking heatwaves this summer, as I met with community workers from across the city, it was difficult to reconcile the desperate warnings of this winter's challenges for households. But we took the looming crisis seriously and developed a plan, reactivating the responses to other emergencies, such as COVID-19 and bringing together partner organisations to coordinate our response.

This plan sets out how we are working together as a city to support the communities most impacted by the rise in the cost of living, particularly over the coming winter months. It builds on the hundreds of groups, clubs, and community activities that go on in Bristol every week. This work, led by the people of Bristol, makes all the difference.

Because of inflation rising to the highest levels since the 1980s, welfare and wage growth stagnant, and energy bills rising to unprecedented levels, this winter will be extremely difficult for households, communities, and businesses across the country. While many households will be significantly impacted by the general rise in the cost of living, again it is the poorest and most marginalised who will be most unfairly impacted. Some people in our city have already lived in a cost of living crisis for decades, and this winter will come in the wake of other economic challenges which already hit hard.

At a local level we can respond to support people through this crisis and work collectively to build longer-term resilience. Coming together as One City, as communities and as neighbours, we can provide practical support to one another just as we did through the COVID-19 pandemic. However, we will require our new government to step up its efforts to tackle the cost of living and enable local places to deliver local growth and prosperity.

I would like to thank all those residents who will work with us this winter to deliver on this plan. Those people who go above and beyond to keep their youth group, faith group or lunch club going and all the partners who have come together to respond to this crisis and give hope to Bristol.



Marvin Rees  
Mayor of Bristol

# Introduction

Since late 2021, the UK has been experiencing a rapidly expanding cost of living crisis. Slow growth in wages and benefits have been increasingly outstripped by inflation. The impact of the COVID 19 pandemic on global supply chains, and the depletion of gas supplies as a result of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, have significantly contributed to increasing energy prices<sup>1</sup>. Many households, businesses, community and voluntary organisations, and public services, hospitals and schools will be spending a significant proportion of their income on energy bills and other essentials.

While the cost of living will impact most households, the impact will be greatest on those already living below the poverty line, and those on low incomes. Even with the Government's intervention offering household support and a two year energy price guarantee, this coming winter will be challenging for many people, businesses and organisations.

While many households will be significantly impacted by the general rise in the cost of living, it is the poorest who will be most unfairly impacted. Some people in our city have already lived in a cost of living crisis for decades, and this winter will come in the wake of other economic challenges which already hit hard.

At a local level we can respond to support people through this crisis and work collectively to build longer-term resilience. Coming together as One City, as communities and as neighbours, we can provide practical support to one another just as we did through the COVID-19 pandemic.

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<sup>1</sup> [Cost of living crisis | The Institute for Government](#)

# Working together as ‘One City’

Formed by Mayor Marvin Rees’ administration in 2016, the City Office is hosted by Bristol City Council and part-funded by a variety of anchor institutions such as universities, colleges and hospitals. Designed to maximise outcomes by fostering partnership working across Bristol, the City Office coordinates a network of stakeholders, regular meetings with City Partners and bi-annual City Gathering events to share knowledge and expertise and identify ways to work together effectively.

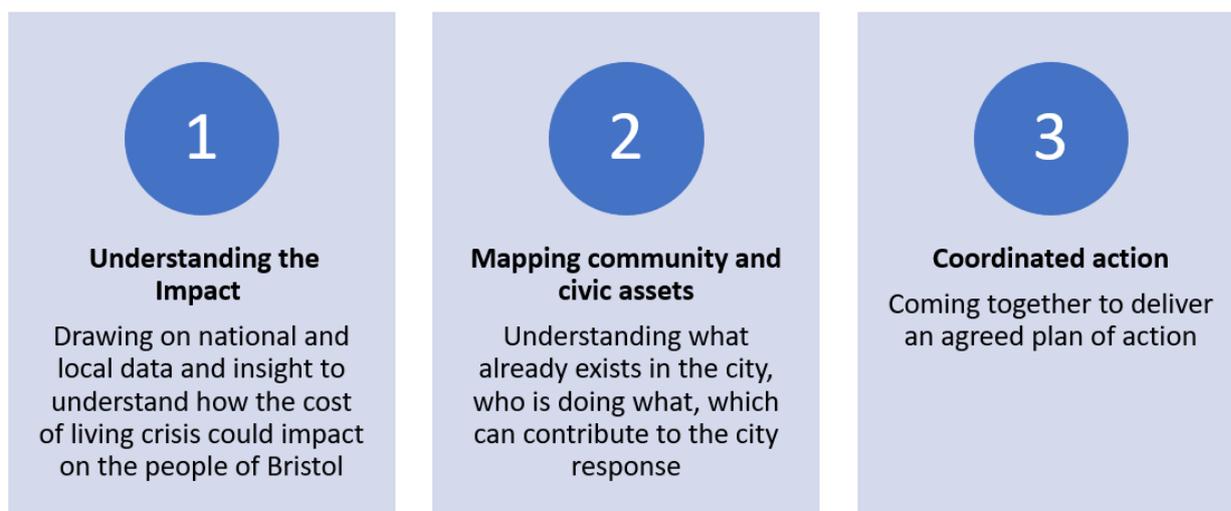
The One City approach brings together these public, private, voluntary and third sector partners within Bristol. They share an aim to make Bristol a fair, healthy and sustainable city. A city of hope and aspiration, where everyone can share in its success. This response is a collaborative effort between stakeholders across the city.

A One City cost of living coordination group is meeting weekly to develop a coordinated, targeted plan of action. A fortnightly Community Exchange meeting brings together the various partners working on the community response.

These groups bring together a diverse network of over 50 organisations, including hospital trusts, Department of Work and Pensions and a range of Bristol City Council services including: employment support; children centres; voluntary organisations providing advice and emotional wellbeing, organisations bringing an equalities perspective, as well as neighbourhood and community organisations.

This plan sets out how we are working together as a city to support the communities most impacted by the rise in the cost of living, particularly over the coming winter months. It builds on the hundreds of groups, clubs, and community activities that go on in Bristol every week. Bristol’s One City Approach to the cost of living crisis focuses on adding capacity to well established community and voluntary action, through the support of city partners and a call to action for volunteers.

Our approach has three stages:



**BRISTOL**  
**ONE CITY**

## Working principles

The following principles underpin the Bristol One City Cost of living Approach:

- **Working together**

We all have a part to play in making Bristol thrive. Citizens and neighbours make up our communities. We experience the collective interactions with our neighbourhood and community organisations as well as businesses and organisations such as Bristol City Council, NHS, schools and the Voluntary Sector. Collaborating and working together we will coordinate a response to the crisis.

- **Social justice and equity**

We will put equity and social justice at the heart of our approach.

We recognise that poverty is part of systemic inequity and disproportionately impacts women, working class communities, Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities, Disabled people, older people and younger people. What we do and how we do it will create the conditions self-determination, mutual respect and dignity.

- **Asset-based community development<sup>2</sup>**

We recognise that citizens and communities have the motivation and skills to support one another and find solutions to shared problems - we saw this in the response to COVID-19.

We will build on and make best use of the resources we have, including the skills and talents of citizens, community spaces, public, businesses and voluntary organisations.

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<sup>2</sup> [Asset Based Community Development \(ABCD\) - Nurture Development](#)

- **Coordinate access to immediate/crisis support whilst also focusing on resilience**  
We will facilitate access to immediate help and support and seek to develop the longer-term resilience of citizens and communities.
- **Learn and adapt as we go**  
This is an evolving situation. None of us have all the answers. We will learn together and adapt to changing circumstances.

## Stage one - Assessing impact

In May 2022, Bristol City Council assessed the potential impact of the cost of living crisis on the people of Bristol, drawing on national and local data to form an understanding of how the crisis will affect people's lives, health and wellbeing this winter (2022-23). We focussed on identifying who may be at greatest risk of significant negative consequences due to the crisis. This information is collated in an 'Impact Assessment' document and is used to inform the coordinated response.

The two-year price cap announced by Prime Minister Liz Truss on 8 September 2022, fixed the highest price a household will pay for a unit of energy for two years, until October 2024. With this in place, a 'typical' household energy bill for people on a variable tariff will be approximately £2,500 a year, although this figure will be higher for households whose energy consumption is greater than the 'typical' usage. This is an increase of over £1,000 on prices this time last year, when the average energy bill was £1,472<sup>3</sup>. Amplified by increased energy needs in winter and high inflation, the cost of living will continue to increase over the coming months.

In March, we estimated nearly one in four households (which equates to around 50,000 households) across Bristol will be spending £1 out of every £5 of their household budgets on energy bills in 2022-23, after housing costs. Significantly, these households are also home to nearly one third of all children in Bristol (32%), highlighting the potential impact on children in the city.

The rising cost of living is not impacting on everyone equally. People who are already experiencing inequity and poverty will be disproportionately impacted.

- **People on the lowest incomes<sup>4</sup>** - will have less available income but also pay more for the same services. For example, people unable to pay their bills by Direct Debit and those borrowing money are subject to higher costs and interest rates. This is what anti-poverty campaign group Fair by Design has referred to as a Poverty Premium<sup>5</sup>.
- **Households with pre-payment energy meters** - households with pre-payment meters often pay above-average costs for their fuel<sup>6</sup>. They will face a significant rise in their monthly bills in autumn and winter with increased energy usage as they do not benefit from the "smoothing" effect of Direct Debits, which spread usage costs evenly across the year<sup>7</sup>.
- **Parents and young families** – parents of young children are more likely to seek credit and alternative support as they are less able, on average, to afford an

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<sup>3</sup> Resolution Foundation, A chilling crisis: [A-chilling-crisis.pdf \(resolutionfoundation.org\)](https://www.resolutionfoundation.org/publications/2022/05/a-chilling-crisis/)

<sup>4</sup> Joseph Rowntree Foundation: <https://www.jrf.org.uk/press/600000-will-be-pulled-poverty-result-chancellors-inaction>

<sup>5</sup> Fair by Design, The Poverty Premium [Poverty Premium – Fair By Design](https://www.fairbydesign.org/poverty-premium/)

<sup>6</sup> The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, The Energy Cap increase [Chart of the week: energy price cap update | ICAEW](https://www.icaew.com/~/media/News-and-Analysis/2022/02/energy-price-cap-update)

<sup>7</sup> Fuel Bank Foundation, Whitepaper: <https://www.fuelbankfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Fuel-Bank-Whitepaper-3.2.2022-fbf013-1.pdf>

unexpected expense<sup>8</sup>. Single parents will be disproportionately affected; with the latest Bristol Quality of Life survey finding that more than one in four single parents found it difficult to manage financially (28.6%) in 2021.

- **Disabled people** – just under half of all people in poverty in the UK are Disabled people or someone living with a Disabled person. Disabled people have higher living costs, and tend to pay more for their heating, travel, food/diet, prescription payments, and specialist equipment. It is estimated that UK households that include Disabled children pay on average £600 more for their energy bills than an average household<sup>9</sup>.
- **Black and Minoritised people** – the latest Bristol Quality of Life survey found that a higher proportion of Black and minoritised ethnic groups reported finding it difficult to manage financially (14.9%) in 2021<sup>10</sup>. In 2020 the Social Metrics Commission<sup>11</sup> found that almost half of people living in a family in the UK where the head of the household is Black are in poverty. Age UK report that poverty among older Black and minoritised ethnic groups is twice as high as for white pensioners<sup>12</sup>.
- **People in rented accommodation** – it is estimated that 69% of low-income private renters in England will be forced to go without food and heating at least one day per week to meet rising housing and living cost<sup>13</sup>. Almost three in ten homes in Bristol are privately rented<sup>14</sup>.
- **Underserved populations** - It is likely that populations that are not typically well represented in data and research are likely to also face increased risk from rising cost of living. For example, refugees and asylum seekers, people experiencing homelessness, and Gypsy/Roma/Traveller groups.

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<sup>8</sup> ONS, Parents more likely to report increases in cost of living: [Parents more likely to report increases in their cost of living - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/news-and-views/out-of-energy-tell-the-government-to-act-now/)

<sup>9</sup> Contact: <https://contact.org.uk/about-contact/news-and-views/out-of-energy-tell-the-government-to-act-now/>

<sup>10</sup> Bristol Quality of Life survey data 2021

<sup>11</sup> [The Social Metrics Commission - a new measure for poverty in the UK](https://www.socialmetricscommission.org.uk/)

<sup>12</sup> [Poverty and low income among Black older people | Discover | Age UK](https://www.ageuk.org.uk/press-releases/2020/12/poverty-and-low-income-among-black-older-people/)

<sup>13</sup> Crisis: <https://www.crisis.org.uk/about-us/media-centre/families-at-risk-of-eviction-as-cost-of-living-crisis-escalates/>

<sup>14</sup> [Bristol Key Facts 2022 - July 2022 update](https://www.bristol.gov.uk/news-and-views/2022/07/bristol-key-facts-2022-july-2022-update/)

## Impact on neighbourhoods

The think tank Centre for Progressive Policy produced a new index in April to measure which areas of England are most at risk to the impacts of the cost of living crisis.

This is based on two main drivers of risk<sup>15</sup>:

- People on low incomes that will be proportionally more affected
- Evidence of pre-existing impacts of poverty and other forms of systemic inequity that will be made worse by this crisis

Their index is comprised of six indicators: fuel poverty, food insecurity, child poverty, claimant count, economic inactivity and low pay.

Nationally, Bristol ranked in the top 45% of areas at greatest risk of the impacts of the cost of living crisis (ranked 132 of 307). When compared to other Core Cities included in the dataset (figure one), Bristol was predicted to have a lower risk of the impacts of the cost of living crisis. This reflects our relative wealth, but we also know poverty and inequity is very real for many Bristol citizens and communities.

City	Total Local Authority Ranking	Poverty-Based Vulnerability Rank	Work-Based Vulnerability Rank
Birmingham	17	13	32
Nottingham	25	35	27
Manchester	34	21	74
Liverpool	46	26	112
Leeds	49	30	90
Newcastle upon Tyne	70	68	105
Sheffield	90	69	145
Bristol, City of	132	62	232

**Figure One** – Cost of living risk index for Core Cities in England\* (Centre for Progressive Policy, September 2022<sup>16</sup>) \*There are 11 Core Cities in the UK. The Centre for Progressive Policy index is only available for cities in England.

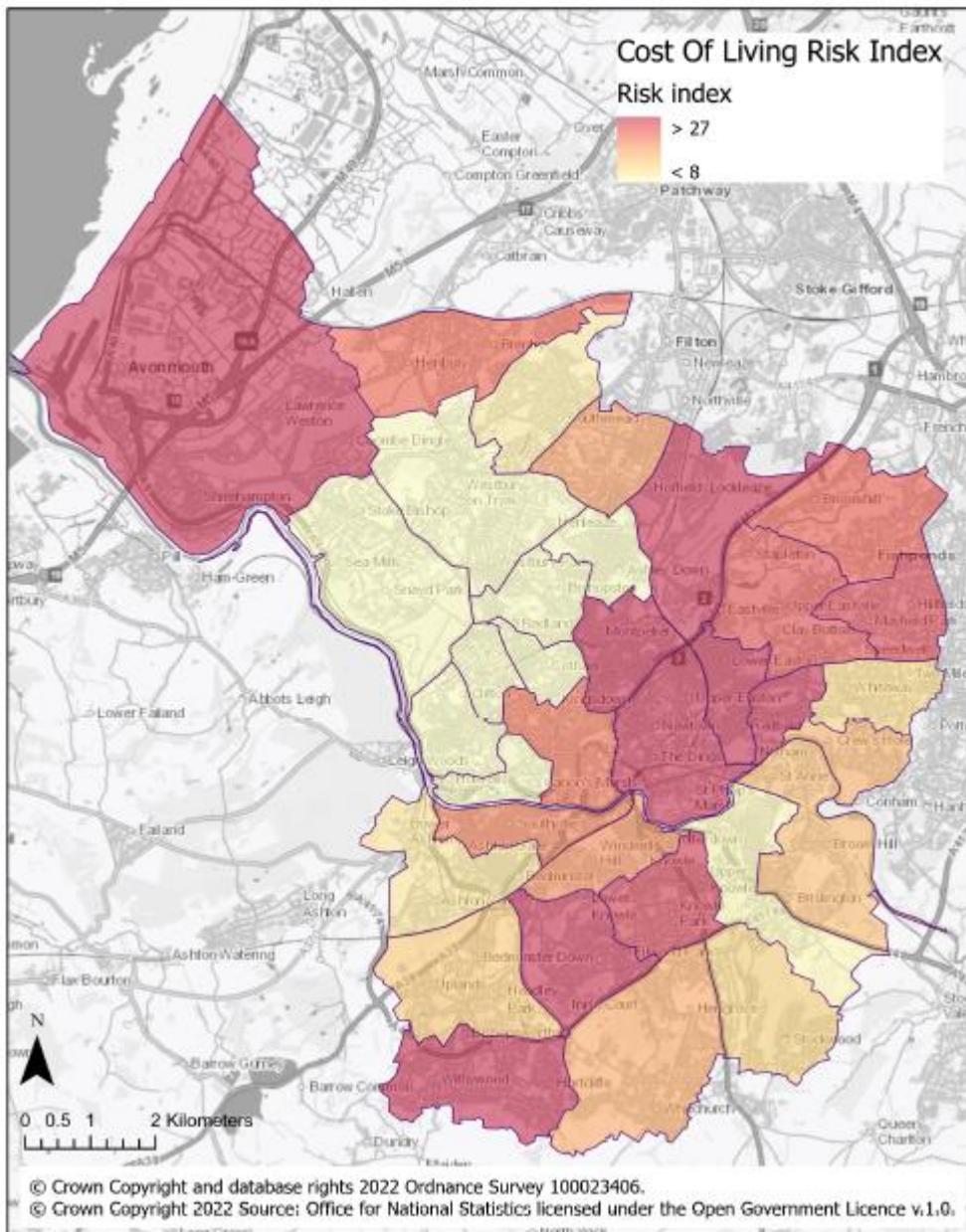
Bristol City Council has replicated the Centre for Progressive Policy methodology by drawing together available local data to identify which areas of the city will be most impacted. It is important to note that the data sources and indicators used do vary due to local data availability, therefore it is not directly comparable to the national findings.

The map below shows wards in Bristol most at risk of the impacts of the cost of living crisis (Figure Two). This exercise identified priority areas where we will focus our community response. The wards in Bristol with the highest exposure to risk resulting

<sup>15</sup> [The levelling up outlook #5 | CPP \(progressive-policy.net\)](#)

<sup>16</sup> [CPP | Hard Up \(progressive-policy.net\)](#)

from the crisis are Hartcliffe and Withywood, Lawrence Hill, Lockleaze, Easton, Filwood, Ashley, Avonmouth and Lawrence Weston, and St George Central.



**Figure Two** – risk index for Bristol, by ward.

The interactive map and data can be accessed here: [Cost of living Risk Index \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com)

The pressures resulting from the cost of living crisis are likely to have both immediate and longer-term impacts on health and wellbeing. In the short term, worries about money can undermine mental health, and there is a strong association between emotional and mental distress and debt. Colder homes are linked to many negative health impacts including respiratory conditions and increased incidence of heart attacks and strokes, with children, older people and those with existing health

conditions being at greater risk<sup>17</sup>. Excess winter deaths are almost three times higher in the coldest quarter of housing than the warmest quarter<sup>18</sup>. Food insecurity also impacts upon health and is when people are unable to consume an adequate quality of food or enough food for health, in socially acceptable ways, or the uncertainty that one will be able to do so<sup>19</sup>.

## Updating the Assessment

As this is a changing situation, with announcements being made by the Government and new reports and national data sources emerging regularly, we plan to review the Impact Assessment on a quarterly basis, to include new evidence and national updates to help us to better understand the impact on the city.

The Impact Assessment report is available on request. Please contact [bristolcostofliving@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:bristolcostofliving@bristol.gov.uk) if you wish to receive a copy and indicate in your email whether you require this in an accessible format.

To better understand and monitor the impacts of the crisis being felt in the city, we have developed a regular monitoring report of key data. The aim of this report is to help us understand how residents are being impacted and direct our response appropriately.

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<sup>17</sup> One City Fuel Poverty Action Plan

<sup>18</sup> Marmot Review – The Health Impacts of Cold Homes and Fuel Poverty

<sup>19</sup> [11b - One City Food Equality Strategy.pdf \(bristol.gov.uk\)](#)

## Stage two - Mapping community and civic assets

The Cost of Living Approach builds on Bristol's response to COVID-19 and what we learned from it.

The COVID-19 community response in Bristol was led by citizens organising, and a diverse network of small and large organisations rooted in their communities. The City Council, NHS and other organisations got behind this response by sharing resources and adding capacity where needed.

Examples include:

- Bristol City Council staff redeployed to support COVID-19 community hubs
- We Are Bristol Helpline was a freephone number which could connect people in Bristol to access practical support near where they live.
- The NHS worked with and through community champions to enable people to improve access to the COVID-19 vaccine.

The pivotal role of the voluntary and community sector and the importance of its relationship with the City Council and NHS is well documented (for example, *Designing a New Social Reality Research*<sup>20</sup>). Bristol's One City response to the COVID-19 pandemic was possible because of existing strong relationships between the voluntary and community sector, and Bristol-based administrations, which have been prioritised and developed over many years. The experience of partnership working in response to the COVID-19 pandemic further strengthened these ties, through the expression of a shared desire to design new ways of working that delivers for communities, by building on what already exists.

The cost of living crisis is impacting on citizens, communities, businesses and services. Resources are being stretched to, or beyond, the limit of sustainability. The COVID-19 response required everyone to do what they can— citizens, community groups, service providers and decision makers all playing to their strengths. It was powered by hundreds of volunteers, people taking action as neighbours, communities and local businesses. This showed us what was possible when we work together.

Community (and civic) assets<sup>21</sup> are the available collective resources which can be accessed by individuals and communities and leveraged to develop effective solutions to promote social inclusion and improve the health and wellbeing of citizens. Assets include organisations, associations and individuals.

The response to the cost of living crisis focuses on maximising existing community and civic assets.

Examples are:

- COVID-19 community hubs

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<sup>20</sup> [VCSE Research — Black South West Network](#)

<sup>21</sup> [community assets analysis.pdf \(understandtogether.ie\)](#)

- Community organisations formed from communities experiencing the greatest inequity
- Neighbourhood/community groups
- Bristol City Council ward councillors
- Community centres with open access and wide range of activities
- Youth groups and play spaces
- City wide voluntary organisations providing advice, well-being, mental health support and employment support services
- Faith spaces
- One city partnership boards/networks
- Council facilities and services
- NHS facilities and services
- Local businesses
- We Are Bristol Helpline
- [CanDo Bristol](#), [Wellaware](#) and other online resources

## Stage three - Coordinated action

The One City partnership provides the foundation for coordinated action in response to the cost of living crisis and the challenges of the coming winter, whilst also ensuring a clear focus on the longer term and how we create the conditions for resilient communities.

Collectively, these will deliver on the five key areas of work:

- Establishing Community Hubs to coordinate local activity and share information with residents
- Welcoming Spaces where people can go and enjoy a range of activities and get support if required
- Providing access to advice, emotional well-being and mental health support through the Welcome Spaces
- Volunteer call to action to support the community response
- Coordinating and communicating the one city approach

The response is being delivered by voluntary and community sector organisations which have established and trusted connections with communities with support from city partners.

A fortnightly Community Exchange brings the voluntary and community sector together with the city council and other public sector partners to focus on delivery.

A One City Coordination Group with representation from all sectors is meeting weekly to coordinate the strategic response. Bristol's Health and Wellbeing Board<sup>22</sup> has strategic oversight on behalf of the One City partnership.

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<sup>22</sup> [ModernGov - bristol.gov.uk](https://moderngov.com/bristol.gov.uk)



**Figure Three**– Response infrastructure

The response work and actions will focus on four themes:

- **Immediate emergency and welfare support**  
Supporting people to access immediate help and support where required, for example, crisis loans, foodbanks.
- **Maximising household income and reducing living costs**  
Providing access to information and support to increase household income, for example, access to employment support and better paid work, take up of benefits and sharing ideas for making things last longer or go further.
- **Keeping well**  
Supporting people to stay physically and emotionally well this winter through access to arrange of community activities, advice and mutual support
- **Community assets and community wealth building**  
Supporting community venues to continue to operate through the winter and be sustainable in the long term

**Coordinated action: Community hubs**

Building on the COVID-19 community hubs model, community and voluntary groups, rooted in communities of geography or interest, will coordinate the response to their neighbourhood and/or community and form a link with Bristol City Council and the One City approach.

For example, they may bring groups together working in the area or within a community and send out information through local social media channels. They will share information, promote community activities, organise social action responses and signpost people to local support. Their primary role is coordination and getting

information to local people. Community hubs are not physical places, they are local groups, often unpaid local people, providing a focal point for their community.

### **Coordinated action:** Welcoming spaces

The concept of ‘welcoming spaces’ developed from discussions between the Mayor and community organisations across Bristol, who wanted to find ways to support people struggling with rising energy prices.

Community centres such as Avonmouth Community Centre, Easton Community Centre and Zion Community Arts Centre already provide welcoming heated space. Using a One City approach<sup>1</sup>, we met with representatives from community organisations across the city and agreed on this definition:

*A welcoming space is a place of connection, already established in communities where people can meet up and socialise, such as community centres. They are open to everyone, providing a welcoming space where, crucially, people from all backgrounds and circumstances can come together and access support.*

In developing the idea of welcoming spaces, City Partners agreed that our response must promote dignity, respect and equity. Welcoming spaces are about people coming together as equals, whilst also being able to access vital support. Welcoming spaces will have a close connection with community hubs, enabling coordination across the city and sharing good models of practice. They will be physically accessible to Disabled people.

Welcoming spaces can run from all kinds of venues including community centres, children’s centres or faith places. This diverse range of spaces are divided between three tiers, in terms of their offer:

- **Tier one:** They offer an agreed list of essential criteria to communities and citizens impacted by the cost of living crisis including: community spaces, Wi-Fi, activities, cost-of- living support. They are physically accessible to Disabled people. These are spaces like community centres which are open to the public much of the time and will already have a range of activities on offer.
- **Tier two:** These are similar to tier 1 in their offer to communities and citizens, but they are currently unable to meet all the tier 1 one criteria. For example, a children’s centre is open most days from Monday to Friday but restricted to families with children under the age of five. A faith space might run a lunch club for older people four days a week and is open to everyone who identifies themselves as an older person.
- **Tier three:** This is known as a Welcome Activity. These are activities rather than spaces. They can extend the offer of a welcoming space. For example, a community group might offer to run a film night in a community centre which is already a welcoming space. This means the community centre can open another night of the week. A group of university students or local parents might offer to run a homework club. The important thing is that people are welcome to join in.

A network of welcoming spaces will be made available to through [an online map on Bristol City Council website](#). The welcoming spaces will be open from October 2022 to March 2023.

Any organisation or group already meeting the welcome space criteria will be able to register their activity using an online form. This information will be made available to the public and partners via the Bristol City Council website using an online map.

Over thirty organisations including schools, community groups, children centres and faith spaces already offering a warm welcome to people have expressed an interest in registering as a tier 2 welcome space or activity.

Community hubs will have a key role in sharing information about what is available in their area or community.

Details on the Welcoming Spaces and how to be part of the network are available on: [Cost of living support \(bristol.gov.uk\)](#)

**Coordinated action:** Advice, emotional wellbeing and mental health

Worries about how to pay the bills and put food on the table cause stress and anxiety. We are working with mental health organisations to provide support to welcoming spaces. This will focus on emotional wellbeing and how we can support each other (peer support).

Advice organisations such as welfare advice, money and energy advice are working together to put in place a coordinated package of support to the tier 1 welcoming spaces and community organisations. Advice services were overstretched before the cost of living crisis. This cost of living support will focus on building capacity by training volunteers for signposting and training community organisations and frontline workers to provide early help.

**Coordinated action:** Cost of living volunteers

As with the COVID 19 response, there will be a call to action for over 100 cost of living volunteers to support the community response, until 31 March 2023.

Volunteer roles are advertised on Can Do Bristol: [Cost of living : Community Response - Can Do Bristol](#)

## **Coordinated action:** Coordination and communications

City organisations are working together to coordinate support services and make support available to the community hubs and welcoming spaces. A communications plan will seek to deliver proactive and targeted communications to residents and communities identified as being most at risk from the crisis, and the response from partners. Messaging will focus on:

- what is happening and the impact on Bristol
- how to access support
- what we can all do

We want to reflect the impact of the crisis on citizens, communities and organisations across all sectors, including businesses. We also want to give reason for hope by sharing stories of neighbourly and community action.

Bringing together all related communications campaigns from across the Council, there will be a seasonal structure to publicly sharing relevant information.

- Summer – In particular, free school meals, holiday hunger and school uniforms leading into preparing for the autumn and winter.
- Early autumn – Preparing for autumn and winter through a campaign centring on the Council's [Cost of living support hub](#). These communications will use a variety of channels and methods to signpost residents to resources that are already available, including to local organisations, and provide advice on what residents practically may be able to do for themselves.
- Spring – Our approach will be informed by the conditions at the time.

There will be a significant focus on promoting the network of welcoming spaces. Proactive media and communications opportunities being developed, as well as responses being granted to various media requests. Other key communications will support the response for recruiting volunteers, who will connect with local and partner organisations and encouraging social action with residents.

Communicating with citizens and partners will happen through everyone engaged in the One City approach. Working together, key messages will be aligned throughout to ensure a consistent narrative is maintained.

Bristol City Council's External Communications Team will support the One City approach by disseminating key messages through the One City network.

<b>What we will do</b>	<b>Audience</b>
Cost of living Hub – Bristol City Council website	Public
Welcoming spaces and community hubs map	Public
Key messages through email and social media	Citizens
Monitoring report and update	Partners

## **Coordinated action: Funding**

Funding the crisis response has presented a challenge, with all sectors, impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, now facing the cost of living crisis. Bristol City Council is working with Quartet Community Foundation and the Bristol Funders Network to secure funding to support the community response set out in this document.

A small grants fund is available from Quartet Community Foundation, September to November 2022 for applications, to support citizen action. More information about the fund opportunity is available on this link [Cost-of-Living Social Action Small Grant \(quartetcf.org.uk\)](https://quartetcf.org.uk)

## **Learn, adapt and review**

We know that this winter will be a changing situation. In line with the principles of the plan we will learn together and adapt to changing circumstances.

The action plan and progress against it will be reviewed periodically until March 2023. Through this process, partners are committed to a process of learning evaluation and taking the opportunities to make long term change.

For more information on available services for citizens in Bristol, you can visit the [Bristol City Council website page showing Cost of Living information](#).

If you have any question or enquiry, please contact [bristolcostofliving@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:bristolcostofliving@bristol.gov.uk)

# Summary Action Plan to March 2023

	Coordinated actions	Timeline
<b>Delivering Framework for actions</b>	Establish Community Hubs in priority areas	<b>1 October</b>
	Establish a network of Welcoming Spaces in priority areas	<b>October</b>
	Establish a model of emotional wellbeing and mental health support to Tier 1 Welcoming Spaces	<b>1 October</b>
	Launch Volunteer call to action through Can Do Bristol	<b>20 September</b>
	We Are Bristol Helpline is open to citizens providing signposting support	<b>October</b>
<b>Communication</b>	Cost of living support hub is on Bristol City Council website	<b>Mid-August</b>
	Produce public facing online map showing the network of Welcoming Spaces	<b>October</b>
	Weekly briefing for partners	<b>22 September</b>
	Citizen winter newsletter	<b>October</b>
	Staff briefing cascading key messages	<b>October</b>
	Staff briefings cascading key messages	<b>October</b>
	Preparing for winter/Self-help campaign	<b>September/October</b>
<b>Impact and Monitoring Framework</b>	Produce quarterly Impact Assessment showing likely impact in Bristol Citizens	<b>May 2022</b>
	Monthly monitoring report	<b>September</b>
<b>Funding</b>	Social Action Small Grant available through Quartet - three rounds (September/October/November) funding welcoming activities	<b>September/October</b>
	Work with city funders to mobilise resources	<b>From May 2022</b>