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# PLYMOUTH'S FUTURE

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Plymouth Labour's  
manifesto for the  
council elections  
May 2nd 2024

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**Plymouth  
Labour**

**Vote  Labour**

# LABOUR IS WORKING HARD FOR YOU

We know the Cost of Living crisis is continuing to hit people in Plymouth hard. Fuel, food and rent are so much more expensive and Plymothians are still suffering the catastrophic effects of the Conservative budget in 2022, which meant thousands of Plymothians' mortgages increased overnight.

That's why we created a Cost of Living action plan as soon as we took control of the council in May to support and signpost residents who are finding life more and more difficult under this Conservative government which has created the biggest tax burden for 70 years.

Yet amidst this backdrop your Plymouth Labour council has been delivering for you:

- Working closely with the NHS to secure a new Eye Infirmary and working on the permanent Community Diagnostic Centre at Colin Campbell Court, the temporary one is already providing hundreds of appointments
- Setting up a Dental Taskforce which is making inroads in to the issue of access but there is still more work to do
- Fixing a third more potholes than our predecessors thanks to the purchase of two Velocity machines which repair road defects more quickly and cheaply
- Appointing a Bus Champion and working with bus companies to restore much-missed and much-needed bus services
- Working hard to address the removal of bus shelters by the previous administration and replacing as many as we can as quickly as we can
- Appointing a Walking and Cycling Champion to promote sustainable travel across the city
- We know for many owning your own home seems like a far off dream. That's why we are investing in building new homes, and take proactive, decisive steps to invest in property to tackle the use of temporary accommodation

- Many of you worry about crime and antisocial behaviour, that's why we've opened a new CCTV Centre to help keep people safe and tackle crime. We've continued investing in our street marshals to help make nights out safer
- Your Labour councillors campaigned for the return of a front desk at Devonport Police Office and we're all working to secure a Labour government which is pledging to put 13,000 police back on the streets and Plymouth will get its fair share
- Since May your Plymouth Labour council has won almost £100m of funding from a variety of sources to create jobs in the city. We will be issuing a new Jobs Plan in the weeks after the election which will set a course for the city's economy for the next five years
- We inherited a real mess from the Tories - including Armada Way - which is now progressing following extensive consultation with the public, along with other city centre projects which stalled under the previous administration
- We set a balanced budget in March with the lowest council tax in Devon and Cornwall

Plymouth Labour believes in Plymouth, you put your trust in us last May and we have worked hard to deliver on your priorities. We're asking you to let us keep on working on our ambitious plans to make our city the best place to grow up and grow old.

## **Cllr Tudor Evans OBE,**

Leader, Plymouth Labour  
and Plymouth City Council



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# A YEAR OF GETTING THINGS DONE

I'm really proud that your Labour council continues to invest in culture, when many local authorities are cutting funding. We've recently celebrated The Box hitting its 250,000 visitor target ahead of time. Exhibitions which cost money to attend elsewhere remain free for Plymothians so everyone has the opportunity to enjoy world-class work by renowned artists and a wide range of exhibitions and activities.

Keeping things free where we can has been a focus in this Conservative cost of living crisis, our decision to reverse a Conservative decision to charge for swimming at Mount Wise pool meant thousands of you were able to swim there for free.

What else have we been working on since we took control of the council in May 2023?

- We are investing more in Adult Social Care and Children's Social Care, where the government sells them short, we are putting in more money
- We've launched our Ageing Well plan to help people age well in our city
- We have launched the largest skills project in a decade in the city centre with our partners, City College, with the purpose of enhancing the blue and green skills of as many people in our city as possible
- More of our children are attending good or outstanding schools
- When we set our balanced budget in March we made sure there was more money for grass cutting, potholes and road repairs because you told us that's what matters to you
- Your Labour councillors have been rebuilding Plymouth's environmental reputation after it was trashed by the Conservatives. We will plant thousands of urban trees and, through the UK's first council-owned habitat bank, channel investment towards nature recovery in our cherished green spaces

- Our National Marine Park - the UK's first - has won a second tranche of lottery funding, the first project in the UK to do so
- We are collaborating on a city-wide Plan for Water focussed on nature-based solutions to tackle pollution and flooding
- To drive down emissions, we will build one of the largest community solar farms in the country at Chelson Meadow and start developing major heat networks
- We will introduce kerbside food waste collections after years of Government delay
- We will install hundreds of electric vehicle charging points and, in partnership with Citybus, bring zero emission buses to Plymouth
- Our new state-of-the-art crematorium will open in the coming months
- We have put the issue of Violence Against Women and Girls at the top of the agenda with the work of our VAWG Champion

Plymouth is a wonderful place to live, our unique location, our rich history, and the feel that the city's a 'village' where everyone knows everyone, all contribute to its special atmosphere.

You can count on your Plymouth Labour council to continue to be ambitious and keep pushing for more and better for our wonderful city, just as we have done since you put your faith in us in May 2023.

## **Cllr Jemima Laing,**

Deputy Leader, Plymouth Labour  
and Plymouth City Council



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# OUR FIVE PLEDGES FOR PLYMOUTH

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## 1. COST OF LIVING

We are implementing our Cost of Living action plan to support more and more residents who are struggling with rising costs



## 2. CAMPAIGN FOR MORE GPs & DENTISTS

We are working with the local NHS to tackle the lack of GP appointments and growing dentist waiting lists whilst continuing to push the Government to give Plymouth its fair share of health funding



## 3. CRIME AND ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

We will keep working with the Police in Plymouth to fight anti-social behaviour and crime



## 4. POTHoles AND ROADS

We will continue to improve the speed and number of potholes filled, we have already fixed a third more potholes in the past year



## 5. TACKLING HOMELESSNESS

We have taken steps to help people living in temporary accommodation and we are getting house-building going in Plymouth again for social rent