

A quick guide to Bristol's new Neighbourhood Partnerships

In October 2006 the government published the local government white paper 'Strong and Prosperous Communities' which outlined proposals to "rebalance the relationship between central government, local government and local people". The white paper talks about giving local government and local people more freedom and powers to bring about the changes they want to see.

You can read more about the Local Government white paper and download a full copy at www.communities.gov.uk

Responding to the calls for local people to have more say in local decision making, Bristol City Council is introducing new forms of Neighbourhood Governance across the city where local people can have more say in influencing decisions. The new local governance structure will be called Neighbourhood Partnerships.

This guide has been produced to explain what Neighbourhood Partnerships are, where they are happening and how you can get involved with them.

What is a Neighbourhood Partnership?

Neighbourhood Partnerships will bring together locally elected councillors, statutory agencies (like the local police, health services and schools), and local voluntary and community groups with local residents. Each Neighbourhood Partnership covers the areas of 2 or 3 council election wards*

Where are the Neighbourhood Partnerships?

Each Neighbourhood Partnership is made up of the geographical area of two or three council wards. The map on page 3 shows which Neighbourhood Partnerships (NP) cover which areas and who the elected councillors are in each NP and the council officer who is providing support to each NP.

If you're not sure which council ward you live in, you can visit:

www.bristol.gov.uk/wardfinder or call Bristol City Council electoral services on 0117 922 3790.

What will Neighbourhood Partnerships do?

The NP will bring together local residents, business, community and voluntary groups along with local service providers to help identify local problems, issues that need resolving and solutions to those problems.

Each partnership will decide what the priority is in their area, but there are several things that each partnership **could** do, such as:

- Draw up a local action plan that highlights areas or problems that need to be improved or addressed locally.
- Work with local service providers to implement the local action plan.
- Apply for funding from other sources (such as the lottery or charitable trusts) to spend on projects in the area.
- Coordinate campaigns or projects to improve local services.
- Hold events or consultations (such as surveys or questionnaires) to find out what sort of things local people would like to see improve.

Each Neighbourhood Partnership will hold regular open forum meetings in each area and an annual community conference where local people can find out what has been achieved in the past year and have an opportunity to say what the local priorities should be for the next year.

Will the Neighbourhood Partnership make decisions or have any money to spend?

The Neighbourhood Partnership will not have any formally devolved decision-making powers from the Council at the moment. However, the Neighbourhood Partnerships will be able to ask council staff to address issues that concern them. In the future, Neighbourhood Partnerships are expected to take on the role of making more local decisions currently made centrally by the Council.

Bristol City Council has allocated funding for the creation of Neighbourhood Partnerships in its medium term financial plan. Most of this will pay for staff to support the partnerships and the cost of holding events to get local people and groups involved. There is expected to be a small amount of money available (approximately £10,000 for each ward – each neighbourhood Partnership will be made up of 2 or 3 wards) to spend locally on their priorities.

How will it affect my group?

If you or your group are involved in local issues then it is important to contact your local Neighbourhood Partnership to find out how you can get involved and see how you'll be able to get things done through the partnership. Contact details for the officers supporting each Neighbourhood Partnership are on page 4.

How do I get involved with my local Neighbourhood Partnership?

It will be for the members of each Neighbourhood Partnership to decide how it wants to operate. There will be different ways to get involved, whether as a volunteer working on an issue that the Neighbourhood Partnership wants to address, attending partnership meetings and events or talking to other local people to encourage them to get involved as well.

The Council is providing some workers from the Community Development team to help support each partnership (contact details on page 4). To ask any general questions about Neighbourhood Partnerships or if you have questions about the second phase of Neighbourhood Partnerships call Jenny Jones at Bristol City Council's Community Engagement Team on 0117 377 3561, email: jenny.jones@bristol.gov.uk

Where can I find out more about local groups in my area?

Your Neighbourhood Partnership will be able to put you in touch with voluntary and community groups in your area. You can also find lists of voluntary and community groups on Bristol City Council website as www.bristol.gov.uk/communitygroups or on the Voscur website www.voscur.org/directories

What role will local ward councillors play in Neighbourhood Partnerships?

As democratically elected representatives for an area local councillors have a very important role to play in the new Neighbourhood Partnerships (NP). The NP will help local people to discuss with their councillors, issues of local concern. New powers for councillors proposed in the local government white paper such as 'Community Call for Action' will give them new powers to demand a response to an issue of local concern and help them to work with their NP to get local concerns addressed. For more information on the Local Government White Paper visit: www.communities.gov.uk/localgovernment

Who should I contact about my Neighbourhood Partnership?

Neighbourhood Partnerships will be established across the whole city by the end of 2008. Bristol City Council has appointed the following officers to support the first Neighbourhood Partnerships:

Neighbourhood Partnership areas	Bristol City Council officers supporting the Neighbourhood Partnerships
Avonmouth (AH) and Kingsweston (KN). Henbury (HY) and Southmead (SO).	Sam Parker sam.parker@bristol.gov.uk 0117 903 9768
Horfield (HD) and Lockleaze (LZ). Fillwood (FD), Knowle (KE) and Windmill Hill (WL).	Mohamed Ismail mohamed.ismail@bristol.gov.uk 0117 903 9755
Frome Vale (FV), Eastville (EE) and Hillfields (HS). Bishopsworth (BH), Hartcliffe (HE) and Whitchurch Park (WP).	Jo Holmes johanna.holmes@bristol.gov.uk 0117 903 9797
Ashley (AY), Easton (EN) and Lawrence Hill (LH). St George East (EG) and St George West (WG).	Abdulrazak Dahir abdulrazak.dahir@bristol.gov.uk 0117 903 8074
Brislington East (EB) and Brislington West (WB). Bedminster (BR) and Southville (SE).	Lorna Heasyman lorna.heasyman@bristol.gov.uk 0117 377 2653

Neighbourhood Partnerships are to be established in the remaining areas of the city by the end of 2008.

Contact details for ward councillors in the Neighbourhood Partnerships

Ward	Councillors
Avonmouth (AH)	Terence Cook (L): 938 0514, Albert Murphy (C): 377 2815
Kingsweston (KN)	John Bees (L): 968 4661, Judith Price (L): 967 8401
Henbury (HY)	Derek Pickup (L): 914 2563, Mark Weston (C): 353 3164
Southmead (SO)	Peter Hammond (L): 903 1938, Jenny Smith (L): (01275) 838 910
Horfield (HD)	Martin Kerry (C): 903 1965, Rosalie Walker (L): 903 9959
Lockleaze (LZ)	Emma Bagley (LD): 914 2564, Sean Emmett (LD): 903 1509
Bedminster (BR)	Mark Bradshaw (L): 353 3160, Colin Smith (L): 353 3380
Southville (SE)	Sean Beynon (L): 353 3370, Charles Bolton (G): 353 3166
Frome Vale (FV)	Lesley Alexander (C): 965 1935, Bill Payne (L): 914 2562
Eastville (EE)	Muriel Cole (LD): 377 3525, Steve Comer (LD): 902 2204
Hillfields (HS)	Noreen Daniels (L): 903 9945, Martin Golding (L): 353 3374
Bishopsworth (BH)	Richard Eddy (C): 922 2835, Kevin Quartley (C): 353 3161
Hartcliffe (HE)	Mark Brain (L): 377 3526, Royston Griffey (L): 377 2816
Whitchurch Park (WP)	Helen Holland (L): 987 2238, Timothy Kent (LD): 300 5645
Ashley (AY)	Shirley Marshall(LD): 377 3527, Dr. Jon Rogers (LD): 914 2558
Easton (EN)	Faruk Choudhury (L): 353 3372, Abdul Malik (LD): 914 2560
Lawrence Hill (LH)	Brenda Hugill (L): 353 3732, Sue O'Donnell (LD): 903 1988
St George East (EG)	Fabian Breckels (L): 353 3371, Charles Price (L): 967 8401
St George West (WG)	John Deasy (L): 955 2902, Ron Stone (L): 977 9169
Brislington East (EB)	Simon Crew (L): 353 3373, Barbara Lewis (C): 353 3162
Brislington West (WB)	Peter Main (LD): 955 7004, Jackie Norman (LD): 977 8959
Fillwood (FD)	Chris Jackson (L): 353 3163, Jeff Lovell (L): 353 3377
Knowle (KE)	Christopher Davies (LD): 377 3528, Gary Hopkins (LD): 985 1491
Windmill Hill (WL)	Mark Bailey (LD): 377 3524, Alf Havvock (LD): 353 3168
Henleaze (HZ)	Dr Dennis Brown (LD): 924 8976, Clare Champion-Smith (LD): 353 3165
Stoke Bishop (SB)	Peter Abraham (C): 922 2227, John Goulandrdis (C): 922 2227
Westbury on Trym (WT)	Ashley Fox (C): 377 2822, Geoff Gollop (C): 903 9946
Cotham (CM)	Neil Harrison (LD): 353 3375, Roger McDermott (LD): 353 3378
Redland (RD)	Sylvia Townsend (LD): 903 1997, Jim White (LD): 903 1971
Bishopston (BS)	David Kitson (LD): 985 2543, Beverley Knott (LD): 987 9858
Cabot (CT)	Alex Woodman (LD): 353 3381, Dr. Mark Wright (LD): 914 2559
Clifton (CN)	Barbara Janke (LD): 973 7910, Brian Price (LD): 929 3536
Clifton East (CE)	Simon Cook (LD): 903 1992, Michael Popham (LD): 959 4681
Hengrove (HV)	Jos Clark (LD): 377 3521, Mary Sykes (LD): 964 3712
Stockwood (SW)	Jay Jethwa (C): 353 3376, David Morris (C): 963 3522

All the councillor email addresses use the same format so to contact your councillor by email insert the name of your councillor into this template: **firstname.lastname@bristol.gov.uk**

Remember there is a .(dot) between the first name and last name but there are no spaces between any of the letters or characters on the email address.

You can also write to your councilor at the Council House, College Green, Bristol, BS1 5TR

November 2007