

Birmingham Labour: The Positive Offer 2016



Labour is re-building Birmingham –
Let's finish the job.
Don't let the Tories wreck it.



Birmingham Labour has delivered

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The Tory government has got it in for Birmingham.

While they've slashed our budget, they're helping their friends in leafy shires like Surrey. But they can't stop us getting on with the job of rebuilding Birmingham.

Birmingham's Tories want to cut £10 million from children's services:

- The Tory 'alternative budget', announced at the March Council - proposes privatising the entire Council Children's Services department, and,
- Slashing £10 million from the budget that protects our most vulnerable young people.

Wholesale privatisation, coupled with a devastating budget cut, shows just what contempt the Tories have for protecting our children's future.

Birmingham Labour has delivered

1 Labour promised to get Birmingham back to work – and we've delivered:

- We're now home to 34,000 companies and 700 international firms – and last year we were the most entrepreneurial city in Britain outside London: 14,000 new businesses opened their doors in 2015 – and in 2014/15 we won a record 48 inward investment projects – creating over 2,000 new jobs.
- We've overseen 1.8 million square feet of office space coming on line¹ in the next year with huge projects transforming our city: the New Street Gateway now opened with the stunning Grand Central Shopping Centre; a new metro-link from Snow Hill to New Street opening in May; the new Park Regis hotel at Five Ways; the refurbished Mailbox; and the re-building of Paradise Circus now underway.

¹ Schemes under construction or with detailed planning permission

2 We promised to build badly needed homes – and we've delivered:

We've built 2000 new homes since 2012, over half of which are council houses available at a genuinely affordable rent. That's more homes built here than by any other council in Britain.



3 We promised jobs for our young people – and we've delivered:

And we've made sure new chances are fairly shared – with a drive to tackle the scourge of youth unemployment and low pay:

- Birmingham Jobs Fund: since it began in August 2013, we've created 3,267 job starts for people aged 16-24 – of which 2,591 are apprenticeships.
- We've created the Birmingham Youth Promise: guaranteeing young people education, employment, training or work experience within 4 months of leaving school, college or employment.
- We're the youngest city in Europe – over 40% are under the age of 25. We now deliver the highest proportion of council run schools with Ofsted 'Outstanding'. – and in 2013, Birmingham had the best performance of any core city at GCSE.

4 And we promised a Living Wage – and we've delivered:

As of January 2016, we have 50 organisations driving through the Living Wage – with over 3000 people benefiting – organisations include Birmingham City Council and Birmingham Museum Trust. In the private sector, National Express is now the biggest living wage employer in the West Midlands.

**But we can't stop here.
The work must go on.
That's why we need a
Labour council.**



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1 We'll step up the rebuilding of Birmingham, creating thousands of new homes every year, to buy or rent:

- We'll get thousands of new homes built. In fact, we're planning to build an additional 51,000 homes in Birmingham in the next 15 years. This is our ambition: to deliver thousands of new homes a year - to rent or buy.
 - As part of our plan to rebuild Birmingham, we'll deliver over 2,000 new council homes by 2020, and invest £600m over the next 10 years to maintain council properties in their current improved condition. On top of this we will continue to re- invest over the same period to help people to continue to live in their homes for longer.
 - We'll put the housing needs of local people first – those who rent as well as owner occupiers. We will step up our delivery of council homes for Birmingham families and set out a long term, comprehensive strategy for housing in the city. This will include building enough new homes of all types and improving our offer to council tenants, people who are homeless and those in the private rented sector.
 - We will ensure the new homes, the new shops, offices and commercial buildings are built by local labour, local young people, offering good jobs and apprenticeships.
 - We'll drive through the creation of thousands of jobs around the new High Speed station at Curzon Street; on the old LDV site; the Icknield Port Loop (over 3,000 homes); a new life science campus at Selly Park; the Wheels Site in Bordesley Park; Birmingham Smithfield; Paradise; the Advanced Manufacturing Hub; the relocation of Birmingham's Wholesale Markets and the former MG Rover plant site at Longbridge. **We will ensure that the Birmingham building boom does not stop at the city centre.**
- And we'll let Brummies invest in Birmingham, with a new Brummie Bond.

2 We'll fight the Government to give us our fair share:

- Every Brummie has been cheated out of £2000. You paid for services you did not receive. The Tories are hitting our city with a £100 million Birmingham cuts bombshell.
- We successfully lobbied the government for a fairer approach to the cuts for future years, but if they had done this from 2010 we would not have had to make any cuts this year. Meanwhile the Tories have given £300 million to Tory councils in the South East.

3 A Labour Police and Crime Commissioner will stand up for neighbourhood policing:

- Despite the biggest cuts to policing in the country, our Labour Police and Crime Commissioner took the tough decisions to protect neighbourhood policing and ensure every area has a named officer, and saving over 300 PCSOs who faced the sack because of Tory cuts.



4 We'll keep our kids safe:

- Our kids should be able to go to school in safety. Labour has saved 190 school crossing patrols on Birmingham's busiest roads. Labour will maintain the current level of the school crossing patrol service and explore new approaches to improving safety around schools.
- Despite the Tory Government cuts, the Labour Council is continuing to provide extra money for child protection services by placing the safety of children at the forefront of the Council's plans. Labour will provide an extra £4.7m in 2016/17, growing to £7m from 2017/18 onwards.



5 We'll step up plans to give all of our young people the skills they need to thrive in the years to come:

- We'll drive through the creation of a New Birmingham Apprenticeship and Internship Agency along with delivery of the new HS2 Training College to create thousands more apprenticeships for local young people.
- We are reducing youth unemployment quicker than anywhere else in the country and we had the biggest national reduction of young people not in education, training and employment last year. We have secured 50m European money to go further in our goal of eliminating youth unemployment.

6 We'll honour our older citizens, who helped build Birmingham, with care and peace of mind:

- Labour will continue to invest in caring for the elderly – providing an extra £5.5m in 2016/17, rising to £22.9m by 2019/20. This will address the extra costs in the adult care sector and the extra people needing help and care.
- More people will have more control, independence and peace of mind. By working in partnership with citizens and health partners, we will reshape our social care system to provide modern services that focus on improving peoples' lives.



7 We'll protect our Community libraries and active parks:

- Labour Birmingham is one of the very few local authorities committed to maintaining our local community library service across the City. **While elsewhere Tory councils are closing them down, we'll launch a creative new scheme to retain community libraries, adding local community hubs, cafés and local resources.**
- We'll champion a healthy city. In the last year alone we provided over 650,000 free physical activity sessions open to everyone and our active parks programme provided a range of activities in over 80 parks. We will roll this out to even more parks in the future.

8 We'll never take our eye off getting the basics right:

- We've invested £60m in modernising the waste collection service, tightened up enforcement and introduced a zero tolerance policy on fly-tipping, with an unprecedented number of prosecutions.
- A new and more effective street cleaning operation to target priority hotspots working alongside local residents.
- Ward Litter Plans for every area with cleaning schedules targeted on the local hotspots.
- Upgraded rubbish collections with 34 new refuse truck drivers to improve reliability of collections crews dedicated to their local patch.

9 We'll make our great city, a great low-carbon city:

- To encourage more cycling we have introduced the Big Birmingham Bikes Scheme, developed a network of trained bike leaders and offered free training in cycle maintenance.
- We will continue to develop carbon and energy management strategies to conserve energy and reduce carbon emissions. These actions are helping to bring economic, social and environmental benefits for Birmingham – including cleaner air and reducing fuel poverty.



10 And because we're Labour – we'll make sure that new opportunity is shared opportunity:

- We'll increase the number of companies signed up to our Business Charter for Social Responsibility, and paying the living wage.
- Our carers and the living wage – why should those who care for those who we love most be paid the least? And those who built Birmingham and Britain deserve nothing but the best in retirement.
- And we'll begin to roll out plans to give all our children a daily hot meal, making our city, a Free School Meal city.

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Appendix 1. List of Major Infrastructure Projects

City-wide	
Birmingham Development Plan (BDP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BDP sets the growth vision, strategy and policy for the city, including planning for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 51,000 additional homes 250 ha of employment land This includes Green Belt release of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Langley Urban Extension, 6,000 new homes Peddimore, 71 ha site with 40 ha for advanced manufacturing
Area Action Plan / Masterplan	
Greater Icknield Masterplan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Greater Icknield Masterplan provides development guidance for the creation of a new sustainable Urban Neighbourhood to the immediate west of the City Centre. It has the potential to deliver 3,000 new homes as well as 1,000 new jobs.
Bordesley Park AAP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Wheels site has the potential to be a major employment site, providing up to 1.1m sq ft and 3,000 jobs.
Longbridge AAP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Longbridge Area Action Plan continues to drive the delivery of a sustainable and accessible new community, providing a new town centre, green space, housing, local facilities, employment and a Regional Investment Site. Some 2,750 jobs have been created to date, in addition to 750 construction jobs. In 2015 the second phase of the new district centre opened, including the 150,000 sq ft Marks and Spencer flagship store. Over 130 homes have been completed on Lickey Road, (including Affordable Housing to rent and buy), and the new Construction College for Bournville College opened in 2015.
City-centre	
Birmingham Smithfield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Represents a once in a generation opportunity to deliver a unique new destination for the city with vibrant retail markets, family orientated leisure and entertainment and a residential neighbourhood at the heart of the city centre. The site provides opportunities for over 3m sq ft of development and 2,000 new residential units.
Birmingham Curzon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curzon Masterplan area covers 141 ha and comprises over 30 strategic development opportunities within the extended City Centre Enterprise Zone. These sites can provide around 4,000 new homes and over 6m sq ft of commercial, leisure and retail floorspace driving forward economic growth linked to the HS2 investment.
Paradise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will provide 1.9m sq ft of office led mixed use space as well as 10,000 jobs.
Economic Zones	
Advanced Manufacturing Hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for over 1m sq ft of new floorspace and 3000 jobs. Hydraforce have moved into a new 120,000 sq ft facility and will create 200 jobs by 2018. German machine tool company Guhring set to become the second occupier at the AMH. Guhring will build a new 50,000 sq ft facility creating a further 50 jobs.
Life Sciences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The remediation of the Life Science Campus in Selly Oak, is underway, which will deliver a developable site by April 2016. In excess of £8m has been awarded from the Local Growth Fund, to support site remediation works and deliver highway improvements, (Selly Oak New Road Phase 1b), which will remove a congestion hotspot on the A38 and improve access to the site.

Appendix 2. Birmingham Jobs Fund:
Analysis of "Starts" by District and Ward.

BJF Starts by District and Ward		Total to Date 23rd Apr 13 - 18th Feb 16		
Produced 18th February 2016		B'ham Residents starting		
DISTRICT	WARD	Jobs	A'ships	Total
Edgbaston	Bartley Green	16	68	84
	Edgbaston	5	28	33
	Harborne	5	19	24
	Quinton	14	61	75
Edgbaston Total		40	176	216
Erdington	Erdington	26	64	90
	Kingstanding	22	111	133
	Stockland Green	33	58	91
	Tyburn	50	91	141
Erdington Total		131	324	455
Hall Green	Hall Green	6	36	42
	Moseley and Kings Heath	10	37	47
	Sparkbrook	39	84	123
	Springfield	14	66	80
Hall Green Total		69	223	292
Hodge Hill	Bordesley Green	35	78	113
	Hodge Hill	17	75	92
	Shard End	22	94	116
	Washwood Heath	45	87	132
Hodge Hill Total		119	334	453
Ladywood	Aston	28	94	122
	Ladywood	15	46	61
	Nechells	34	79	113
	Soho	18	70	88
Ladywood Total		95	289	384
Northfield	Kings Norton	10	67	77
	Longbridge	17	66	83
	Northfield	13	80	93
	Weoley	22	78	100
Northfield Total		62	291	353
Perry Barr	Handsworth Wood	21	38	59
	Lozells and East Handsworth	42	63	105
	Oscott	8	80	88
	Perry Barr	11	44	55
Perry Barr Total		82	225	307
Selly Oak	Billesley	7	84	91
	Bournville	12	61	73
	Brandwood	8	76	84
	Selly Oak	6	30	36
Selly Oak Total		33	251	284
Sutton Coldfield	Sutton Four Oaks	1	28	29
	Sutton New Hall	5	39	44
	Sutton Trinity	2	58	60
	Sutton Vesey	1	39	40
Sutton Coldfield Total		9	164	173
Yardley	Acocks Green	8	76	84
	Sheldon	4	53	57
	South Yardley	10	65	75
	Stechford and Yardley North	14	67	81
Yardley Total		36	261	297
Within Birmingham, but postcode not provided		0	53	53
BIRMINGHAM TOTAL		676	2591	3267
PRIORITY WARD TOTAL		241	555	796

Notes:

¹ Data provided by NAS, DWP and BJJ Monitoring

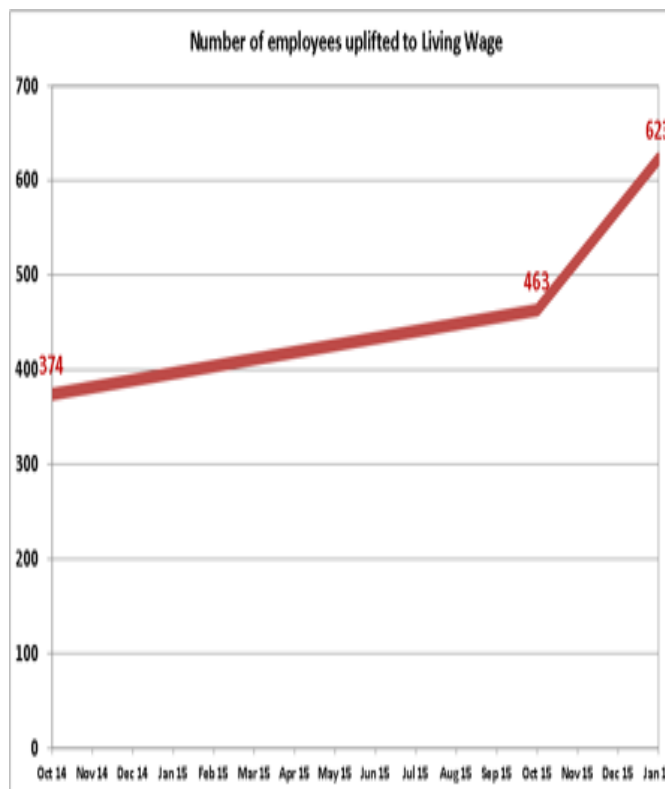
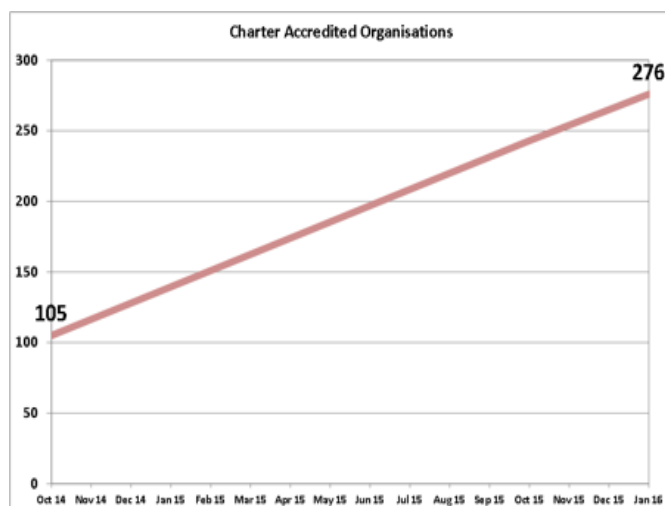
² Data provided by NAS, DWP and BJJ Monitoring

³ Data produced from BJJ Monitoring / Figures include some 13/14 starts that were not included in the 2013/14 reported figures

Appendix 3. Living Wage
(as at 19th January 2016)

Paying the living wage to employees servicing Birmingham City Council Contracts is a mandatory commitment of the Birmingham Business Charter for Social Responsibility.

Since the implementation of the chart in September 2013, 276 organisations have been accredited. This breaks down as follows:



A particularly good example is Birmingham Museums Trust, who have uplifted 120 employees to the Living Wage.