

ONE COVENTRY

Council Plan 2016-24



Coventry City Council

OUR VISION

Globally connected; locally committed





Foreword from Council Leader

We have some amazing opportunities on the horizon like UK City of Culture 2021, European City of Sport 2019 and being a host city for the Commonwealth Games in 2022 and we have exciting plans to change the city centre – something which we know from our household survey matters to many of you.

Working with you and our partners, we need to make the most of these opportunities so they also help improve people's lives, especially the most vulnerable.

Having the right building blocks in place to help our city grow and people do well is key to that.

So, we're focusing on attracting businesses and jobs to the city so local people can take up new opportunities. This also means investing in our roads and transport connections so we make the most of our location at the heart of the country. And we want to make sure we are digitally connected.

We want to improve the quality of people's lives in Coventry. This includes making sure every child has the opportunity to get the most from school – whatever their circumstances. This will open up new opportunities for our young children and also mean we have local people with the right skills to help us attract more investment and a greater range of businesses to the city.

We'll also be focused on improving health and wellbeing and supporting people to live independent lives. But this won't be without challenges.

Over the last 10 years our funding from government has been halved, meaning we have to change what we do and how we do it.

We know we can't do this alone and we're lucky to have strong partnerships with businesses, community organisations and local people that are already helping us to deliver services differently – like in our libraries and youth services.

As we go forward, we'll be looking at new ways to help people to help themselves and others in the community - whether that's doing more online or supporting others to be the best they can be and lead more independent lives.

I'm hugely proud of this city and its people and this plan sets out what we can achieve by working together.

Thank you all for your support in building a better future for Coventry.

Councillor George Duggins
Leader of Coventry City Council

GLOBALLY CONNECTED

Promoting the growth of a sustainable Coventry economy

- Supporting businesses to grow
- Developing the city centre
- Creating the infrastructure for the city to grow and thrive
- Raising the profile of Coventry

And making sure that residents share in the benefits by...

- Helping local people into jobs
- Increasing the supply, choice and quality of housing
- Reducing the impact of poverty
- Increasing access to arts, sports and cultural opportunities

LOCALLY CONNECTED

Improving the quality of life for Coventry people

- Creating an attractive, cleaner and greener city
- Improving educational outcomes
- Making communities safer
- Improving health and wellbeing
- Protecting our most vulnerable people
- Reducing health inequalities

DELIVERING OUR PRIORITIES with fewer resources

Making the most of our assets

Working together with residents, communities and partners, enabling people to do more for themselves



GLOBALLY CONNECTED

We will promote the growth of a sustainable Coventry economy that benefits the city by...

Supporting businesses to grow through

- Attracting inward investment
- Helping businesses expand
- Encouraging them to create jobs
- Improving access to skilled workers
- Retaining skilled graduates in the area

Developing the city centre for the 21st century by

- Enhancing the quality of public spaces
- Bringing the city centre to life with a range of employment, leisure, education and retail opportunities

Creating the infrastructure for the city to grow and thrive by

- Providing leadership to stimulate the Friargate business district near the railway station
- Making the city more accessible for businesses, visitors and local people through better road, rail and digital connections

Raising the profile of Coventry through

- Encouraging businesses to relocate to the city
- Developing economic, business and trade links with other cities
- Promoting Coventry as a visitor destination and centre for arts and culture sports and leisure; music and events

And making sure that residents share in the benefits by...

Helping local people into jobs through

- Improving employability through access to skills and qualifications
- Creating routes into work, including apprenticeship opportunities

Increasing the supply, choice and quality of housing

Reducing the impact of poverty through

- Supporting those experiencing fuel poverty
- Promoting a living wage
- Supporting families experiencing debt to take greater control of their finances
- Availability of appropriate and relevant advice and information

Increasing access to arts, sports and cultural opportunities including leisure, music and events

LOCALLY CONNECTED

Improving the quality of life for Coventry people

We are committed to improving the quality of life for Coventry people by working with local communities to...

Create an attractive, cleaner and greener city through

- Maintaining the street scene (roads/pavements/cleanliness)
- Encouraging people to reduce, reuse and recycle their waste
- The upkeep of parks and open spaces

Improving educational outcomes by working with schools to continue to improve school standards

Making communities safer together with the police, to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour

- Working with victims, offenders and neighbourhoods

Improving health and wellbeing by

- Helping local residents lead healthier lifestyles including better mental health and
- Helping people to maintain their independence and supporting them when they need help.

...especially for our most vulnerable residents by

Protecting our most vulnerable people

- Keeping children and adults safe from harm
- Providing early intervention for families who need it
- Enabling people to exercise choice and control in their daily lives
- Improving services for people experiencing domestic violence and
- Preventing homelessness and helping people who do become homeless

Reducing health inequalities

- Giving our children the best start in life
- Working towards becoming an age friendly city
- Helping support people facing multiple and complex needs



DELIVERING OUR PRIORITIES

with fewer resources

Making the most of our assets

We will use our increasingly limited resources effectively by...

Making savings so that we can support frontline services by

- Rationalising our property portfolio
- Reducing operating costs and reducing carbon emissions
- Maximising our income through collecting Business Rates, Council Tax and reviewing fees and charges
- Levering additional funding through grants and bids
- Using income generated through our commercial property portfolio
- Reducing staffing costs

Support the regeneration of Coventry's economy by

- Utilising the Coventry Investment Fund
- Adding social value
- Encouraging local contracts

Change how we work to become more flexible and adaptable, by

- Putting local people and their needs at the heart of the customer journey
- Developing our workforce and new ways of working through culture change
- Sharing services
- Working with our neighbours and the sub-region

Active communities and empowered citizens

We will have new conversations with residents, communities and partners, enabling people to do more for themselves by...

Empowering citizens and encouraging active communities to

- Uncover and use their own assets to achieve their ambitions
- Share and improve local services
- Design and implement solutions that meet local priorities.

Working together with neighbours and partners across the voluntary, public and private sectors to

- Enable residents to self-serve by maximising the use of new technology
- Pool and share resources
- Solve local problems
- Encourage the development of social enterprises, mutual and other operating models

