

Let's #GetItDone! #forCardiff

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twitter.com/CardiffPlaid
post@cardiffplaid.org



A manifesto #forCardiff

Cardiff Plaid's ambitious proposal for
Wales' capital city



Introduction

On May the 4th Cardiff has the chance to vote for a real alternative to a Conservative Party that is making a mess of Brexit and a completely divided Labour Party that is running our city into the ground.

Cardiff Plaid had a very good 2016. After years of hard work we are now a credible alternative for our capital city. In the Assembly election over 10,000 people voted Plaid in Cardiff West. And in November, we won the Grangetown by-election, taking a seat in the south of the city for the first time.

In 2017 we go from strength to strength. In January a poll carried out by YouGov, the world's leading polling company, projected that Plaid would win an Assembly seat in Cardiff West for the first time. That means we have a historic opportunity at the Council elections in May to win big and return to government in City Hall.

People now know that it's Cardiff Plaid who will stand up for this city and stand up for Wales. We've been the party that has taken on Labour over the Local Development Plan, which will see green field sites destroyed and 10,000 extra cars on the roads. Cardiff already has some of the

most congested and polluted roads in the UK. But we are the only party that has committed to revoke and reform the LDP to replace it with something that saves our countryside and protects our city from poisonous air.

And we've been the party that successfully called in Labour's decision to close Waungron Road recycling centre. We've shown the folly of spending £2 million to build four bus stops there, when what people want and need is a recycling centre.

We've been the party demanding safe and healthy routes to schools. We've already secured an extra £1.5 million to the Safer Routes to Communities scheme through the Welsh Government's budget. Now, if we run the Council after May, we can bid for that extra money to deliver the safer, healthier routes to school that our children and their parents deserve.

And more than any other party, it's Cardiff Plaid that is exposing the cosiness and constant stitch ups of the Welsh political establishment. Plaid Cymru successfully campaigned for devolution and now we have to be the party that saves it.

We need to burst the Bay Bubble and show that in Wales everyone has a chance if they put in the work, regardless of whether they're a member of the right party.

Labour have made wasting money a sport. There are 53 million reasons to vote Cardiff Plaid on May 4th, because that's how much money Labour have wasted recently through questionable business grants and land deals. And if Cardiff Plaid run Cardiff Council after May 4th we have committed to throw open the books on all of Labour's land deals to get to the bottom of what is going on.

But what people want and need more than anything right now is a party that is going to get things done. Cardiff Plaid is that party. If people come to us with a problem we will do everything we can to fix it. We won't let communities deteriorate. We won't let mountains of rubbish pile up in people's streets.

This manifesto is a comprehensive plan for what we will get done in May. It's a serious set of proposals for a party that is serious about governing in Wales' capital city. It's been developed with our members and with residents

across Cardiff. The thousands of conversations we have on doorsteps, in pubs, schools, community centres and places of worship have fed into our plan.

I'm proud of this manifesto and if we win in May I'll be proud to implement it.

Cardiff is our capital. When the world looks to Wales they look to us and so second best isn't good enough. Cardiff Plaid is the party that is going to deliver the very best for Cardiff. So on May the 4th, let's get it done!



Neil McEvoy AM
Cardiff Plaid Group Leader

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Cardiff Plaid's 7 pledges

#forCardiff

It's time for good people to stand up. On May 4th you have the chance to elect Cardiff's Champions. We have 7 pledges for 2017 that will transform our capital city. So on May 4th, vote Cardiff Plaid for a change. We promise to:

1. Carry out an independent root and branch review and restructure of the Council's management, without fear or favour. Savings made will be diverted to frontline services.
2. Protect our city's green field sites from destruction by revoking and reforming Labour's ill-judged 'Local Development Plan'.
3. Use the 'City Deal' to fix Cardiff's road chaos and improve transport with green, sustainable infrastructure fit for Wales' capital city.
4. Tackle Cardiff's housing crisis by providing local housing for local need.
5. A cleaner city with more street cleaners, and the reopening of recycling centres, closed by Labour.
6. Transparent, honest and open city politics. Starting by opening the books on recent questionable land deals and land reclassifications, made by Labour.
7. Work with the Welsh Assembly to get the best deal for Cardiff in the upcoming Brexit negotiations.

Local Environment, Planning, Transport and the Well-being of Future Generations

Cardiff Plaid will clean up Cardiff and protect the local environment. Protecting our green spaces and parks for the enjoyment of the next generation is at the heart of our vision for the city.

Cleaner streets in Cardiff will mean a better quality of life, a better image for our neighbourhoods and safer streets for cyclists.

Beyond these changes, we will promote a wider vision of transforming Cardiff into a sustainable and green capital. In order to do that we will

embrace the Welsh Government's Well-being of Future Generations and strive for Cardiff to be the top performing Local Authority when it comes to achieving Wales' seven well-being goals. We will seek at all times to act in accordance with the 'sustainable development principle' and commit to prioritise and resource the newly established Public Services Boards. We will call for the following policies to be included in Cardiff's Local Well-being Plan in order to deliver on the seven well-being goals.

We pledge that we will:

- Protect Cardiff's green field sites from destruction by revoking and reforming Labour's Local Development Plan
- Re-open Waungron Road recycling centre and revamp the Wedal Road site
- Engage local residents in a complete review of recycling needs across the city to ensure a service that works for everyone. We will increase recycling opportunities.
- Increase the number of council workers involved in litter picking and street sweeping.
- Create a reward scheme as an incentive to volunteers, especially young people and youth groups, who want to pick litter in their communities.
- Increase cleansing resources in the City centre to make our Capital a place to be proud of again.
- Introduce free bulky waste collection, without the huge list of exceptions currently in place.
- Deploy free community skips in agreed areas on a temporary basis.
- Operate a strict zero-tolerance policy on litter dumping and fly tipping. We will use CCTV resources to help with this.
- Identify new land for allotments and grow-your-own schemes.
- Produce a city parks code, setting out a contract between residents and the council about how we keep our parks and green spaces clean.
- Work with local communities to determine where is best to issue bins for recycling and black bin bags, rather than imposing them on areas where they are not suited.
- Use DNA checking of dog faeces in order to identify offenders.
- Invite representatives of Environmental Organisations to sit on the newly established Public Services Boards.
- Monitor air quality throughout the city, so that targeted interventions can take place where there is a risk to health.
- Establish a Cardiff Forest Fund in order to embark on a large scale tree planting programme. We will aim to ensure there is at



least one tree for every person living in Cardiff.

- Commission a study into greening urban areas of Cardiff, following best practice around the world. We will then ring fence a multi-million green infrastructure fund from the City Deal in order to deliver the recommendations.
- Carry out energy-saving measures including more LED street lighting and micro generation
- Invite government and business to take part in a deposit return scheme for certain types of waste in Cardiff.
- Incentivise electric car take-up in the city by installing electric infrastructure across the City and transitioning the Council vehicle fleet to electric vehicles.
- Introduce a 'carbon footprint impact' on any contracts awarded
- Use the planning system to build resilience to flooding into our urban areas, through greening schemes and water management.
- Prioritise the production of an integrated transport policy for the city, encouraging the use of public transport and active travel.
- Ring fence all parking and traffic fines for a major programme of pothole reduction and resurfacing, including cycle lanes and paths. This will be reviewed after 2 years.
- Work with cyclists on a major strategy to encourage cycling and to use Welsh Gov-

ernment funding for safer cycling routes around the city.

- Produce a programme of safer walking routes for children and parents/guardians to every school in the city, and provide Cycle Training for all schoolchildren. We will bid for the extra money secured by Plaid Cymru in the National Assembly for the Safer Routes to Communities scheme in order to fund this.
- Increase the number of 20mph zones around schools and in residential areas.
- Develop a cycle and walkway from Fairwater to Creigiau along the former railway line.
- Commission a feasibility study to connect Pentyrch, Gwaelod-y-garth and Radyr with a cycle and walk way.
- Work with Network Rail and the Welsh Government to provide railway stations in the east of the city at St Mellons.
- Commission a tram feasibility study with the intention of bringing a return of trams to our capital city.
- Increase monitoring of taxi access in the City Centre, ensuring journeys of all lengths are accepted.
- A voluntary ambassador and tour guide courses, including basic Welsh lessons for taxi drivers in order to encourage the use of basic Welsh phrases such as diolch and bore da.w

Economic Development and Housing

Cardiff Plaid aims to make the best of what we have as a City and add to what we currently lack. Cardiff Plaid has an ambitious plan to solve the housing crisis and kick start the local economy in a circular and sustainable way that has the 'sustainable development principle' at its heart.

Cardiff Plaid will support our local businesses to become more successful, and will aim to develop

a sustainable and viable economy which raises the living standards of our citizens.

As the capital city, Cardiff has a major responsibility to ensure that our prosperity enables the surrounding areas to develop and share in our success and growth.

We pledge that we will:

- Prioritise developing Cardiff's brownfield sites without over developing Cardiff's communities.
- Work with regional leaders to create a regional housing and planning policy through the Cardiff Capital Region.
- Begin a large scale council house building programme, which has not happened under Labour, and bring Cardiff's long term empty properties into use.
- Use the repayments made under the Welsh Government's Home Improvement Loans scheme in order to refurbish long-term empty offices into flats, where it would be desirable to do so.
- Establish an arms-length company for retrofitting homes to make them energy efficient, which will create jobs by employing local builders and apprentices.
- Facilitate the awarding of contracts to local businesses with an enhanced 'source local' policy. Ensure that housing policy does not discriminate against any single parent as it currently does. All parents with access to their children will qualify for an additional room.
- Ensure that Cardiff housing is prioritised for local people.

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- Implement the Welsh Government's 2012 Code of Guidance so that veterans will be prioritised in housing allocations schemes.
 - Require developers to reflect the city's Welsh character, history, culture and the Welsh language in any new housing or development schemes. We will issue new guidance on Welsh place names to increase the number of new Welsh place names in the city.
 - Relaunch the Capital Cardiff Fund, with the Council taking equity in enterprises where appropriate.
 - Pioneer 'Local Growth Zones' in targeted areas of the city, with business funding made available as an incentive. This will complement the Enterprise Zone in the city centre to create hubs of economic activity around the city.
 - Negotiate schemes whereby major employers demonstrate corporate social re-sponsibility by contributing positively to the community.
 - Bid for major international events to Cardiff, including the 2020 World Boxing Council Convention and an Ultimate Fighting Championship event
 - Help businesses recycle more of their waste and reward or incentivise businesses who adopt high environmental standards.
 - Develop the 'circular economy' in keeping with Cardiff Plaid's Localist ideology
 - Host a conference on the establishment of a Cardiff Stock Exchange.
 - Establish a young entrepreneurs business fund to encourage young people to start businesses
 - Work with Visit Wales to promote Cardiff as a retail destination utilising the Victorian arcades, the traditional market, as well as the wide range of newer retail on offer.
 - Seek to fill empty retail space and empty buildings in the City, examining compulsory purchase to facilitate this.
 - Work with Visit Wales to create a Cardiff Food Tour that will promote culinary gateways into Cardiff along major arteries such as Cowbridge Road East and City Road.
 - Facilitate Cardiff universities to enter into new partnerships and memorandums of understanding with European universities and science parks to lessen the impact of Brexit on university collaboration.

Education

Under the Plaid – Lib Dem Coalition Council, schools were the second best funded per pupil in Wales. Under Labour Cardiff was eleventh and has again now since slipped down the Welsh funding league table: we will address this.

Education is a right, not a privilege. Cardiff Plaid wants every pupil and student in the City to achieve their full educational potential.

We pledge that we will:

- Require all education providers to ensure equality of opportunity for all learners;
- Remove barriers to learning, building on best practise from schools the Mary Immaculate. A pilot using Mary Immaculate's techniques will be expanded to another school.
- Use funding from the 21st Century Schools programme to refurbish schools, especially where premises are not fit-for-purpose. We will issue new guidance to avoid pupils being left without schools facilities; as happened at Willows, Cantonian and Michaelston College.
- Promote and support the principle of every school becoming a community-focussed school, with a pilot of school kitchens providing food for the vulnerable in the communities.
- End low pay for supply teachers, rejecting the overpriced agency favoured by the Consortium.
- Introduce a voluntary subject teacher exchange programme between Cardiff schools to spread good practise and enhance pupil and teacher experiences.
- Introduce a mentoring scheme and support for teachers in self-evaluation and professional development at levels of the education service;
- Publicise and invest in Welsh immersion to allow transfer into the Welsh-medium sector.
- Respect cultural differences in diet in all educational establishments. At least one suitable food option for people observing a Halal, Kosher or vegetarian diet must be provided where there is demand.
- Provide for Heritage Languages (Urdu, Bengali, Gujrati, Somali, Arabic) to be taught to a GCSE level in Secondary schools where there are significant number of children with mixed heritage and demand can be shown.
- Incorporate the British Sign Language charter into the education system in Cardiff, and support all deaf children to achieve their full potential.
- Review and resource the schools admission process. Start the process for building a fourth Welsh medium secondary school in order to meet parental demand. We will respect the demand for Welsh primary education and begin the process for increasing Welsh primary capacity.
- Commit to fully reopening Cantonian school and to keep it open for the future.
- Increase funding for music and drama as a means to create greater social and equality.
- Invite a representative from a Cardiff-based university to attend the Public Services Boards to ensure that education is at the heart of developing Cardiff's Local Well-being Plan

Leisure, Sport and Community

A Plaid Cymru council will rebuild the youth and play provision in the City. The great, diverse communities of Cardiff make our City;

we will put the citizens of Cardiff at the heart of everything we do.

We pledge that we will:

- Rebuild the council play and youth services which have been reduced by Labour's cuts.
- Encourage the provision of disabled friendly leisure facilities.
- Encourage the introduction of Leisure Cards, offering discounts for leisure facilities for the over 65s.
- Open up new opportunities for people to become social workers by providing bursaries for care leavers wishing to be social workers
- Carry out a root and branch review of children and adult services.
- Collaborate closely with the police and agencies to keep our streets safe through the Public Services Boards and the Local Well-being Plan.
- Work with partner agencies to take drug usage of the streets by establishing safe-use rooms for users, and taking action on discarded needles.
- Partner with organisations to deliver food for the homeless.
- Tackle bicycle theft and crime by providing secure bike lockers at train and coach stations and a free service to register bicycles.
- Build on the successful use of time credits, such as in Action in Caerau and Ely, to develop a Cardiff ExChange Scheme to provide payment in kind for volunteers across the city.
- Protect the city's remaining libraries as social and service hubs. No more closures.
- Make the burial process more efficient to comply with Muslim and Jewish requirements.
- Support minority sports such as baseball and touch rugby.
- Provide free use of leisure facilities for local children when the facilities are otherwise unused. We want to end the reality of children being priced out of sport.
- Reintroduce the Seren Owain Glyndwr Award, recognising Cardiff citizens for their outstanding achievements every September 16th.
- Every Christmas there will be a "Dress the Tree" event signifying the family start of Christmas, with the Seren Owain Glyndwr award-winner placing a star on top of the city's Welsh sourced Christmas tree. The decorations on the tree will be produced by local schools.
- Create a funded bursary to enable students identified as living in poverty to study medicine and practise in Cardiff.

Culture and Tourism

Culture should be integral to every-day life, rather than an optional extra. Culture should express Cardiff's pride in being the capital City of Wales, celebrating the variety that makes us unique.

Tourism is a key economic sector for the capital. Our vision is to create a reputation of Cardiff as a 'must-visit' destination, among the most cultured and vibrant cities in Europe.

We pledge that we will:

- Bid for the European City of Culture.
- Implement a hotel bed levy on the 2 million plus nights spent in Cardiff by tourists and invest this money in promoting Cardiff and the wider region.
- Support local businesses to capture as much visitor spend as possible during major events, by helping them with marketing and signage.
- Develop a strategy for heritage tourism that gives a higher profile, around the city, to key figures of Welsh history.
- Institute a St David's Day holiday across the council and reinstate the St David's Day Festival.
- Work in partnership Visit Wales and local sports clubs to promote sport-based tourism.
- Invest in and sustain the Pride Festival.
- Ensure the presence of Welsh branding, during major sporting and cultural events which feature other marketing.
- Encourage cultural organisations in the city to bid for extra arts funding secured by Plaid Cymru in the Welsh budget.

Welsh Language

Cardiff Plaid will put the Welsh language at the heart of the council's work and at the heart of life in the capital.

We want to increase the usage and accessibility of the Welsh language in the city

and to promote its use within the council. Welsh is a unique selling point for Cardiff as a city, and should be treasured as a major asset. Cardiff Plaid wants the language to be accessible to all of our citizens and for it to have a healthy future.

We pledge that we will:

- Produce a new strategy for using Welsh as a living language within the council.
- Offer Welsh language training to all council staff and a language immersion programme for key staff.
- Fund outreach work to promote Welsh-medium education across Cardiff's communities.
- Provide more financial support for Welsh classes to remove financial impediments.
- Work with the National Eisteddfod to deliver the maximum cultural and linguistic legacy from the Cardiff Eisteddfod in 2018.
- Maintain funding to Menter Iaith Caerdydd.
- Partner with the Welsh Government to ensure the future of Tafwyl festival
- Work directly with small businesses to promote Welsh as a draw for customers, offering a translation service for signage, shop fronts and branding.
- Make a Welsh language course available through the Welsh Refugee Council.

Finance and Governance

Cardiff Plaid will improve how the council is run. We shall ensure that it provides efficient and transparent services for all our residents.

Cardiff is the capital of Wales and the Council will reflect this at all levels. As such we need to exploit and promote that role.

We pledge that we will:

- Carry out a full management restructure to provide value for money, greater efficiency and accountability.
- Introduce clauses, wherever legally possible, in council procurement contracts to reduce carbon foot print and promote the use local suppliers.
- Initiate a forensic review of Council finances in preparation for a new budget in September 2017.
- Establish a limit on Council spending on external consultants.
- Promote transparency in council finances, including opening the files on all land and lease deals in recent years.
- Attracting the top graduates from Welsh universities in a Council graduate scheme.
- Take a zero tolerance approach to all discrimination and implement a new anti-bullying protocol within the council.

