



HACKNEY

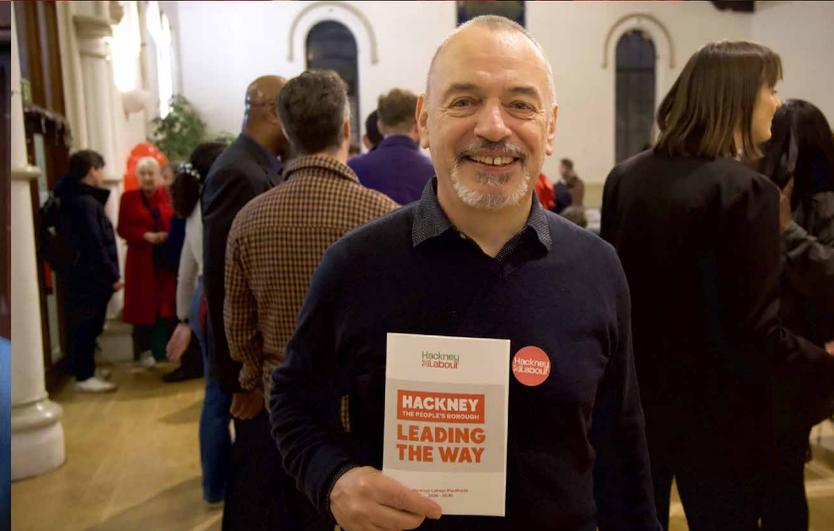
THE PEOPLE'S BOROUGH

**LEADING
THE WAY**

Hackney Labour Manifesto
2026 - 2030

HACKNEY
THE PEOPLE'S BOROUGH

**LEADING
THE WAY**



WORKING TOGETHER



We love Hackney! We take pride in our culture, creativity and can do attitude. We have a long history of solidarity and great hopes for the future. We will build safe and secure homes, keep our streets clean, maintain beautiful parks and generate new opportunities for all – we will always celebrate our diverse communities and radical histories.

When I first ran for Mayor of our Labour led council, I placed housing front and centre of our ambitions, pressing ahead with plans for 1000 social rent homes, bringing forward a landlord licensing scheme to raise the standards of rented accommodation across the borough, and working with City Hall and central government to tackle homelessness. I have only just got started and have huge ambitions to make Hackney's homes fit for the future.

Every day we work together to end inequality by tackling barriers in education, health and employment, and working in partnership with our voluntary and community sector. We are backing local economic growth, investing in local skills and cooperative ways of working, always rooting our progressive social and economic plans in social justice so everyone in Hackney can thrive.

Our climate leadership has gone from strength to strength, protecting sites of natural beauty, building resilience against extreme weather, and creating clean, community energy. Working together with **a Labour government, a Labour Mayor of London and a Labour Council,** we have seen Hackney's innovation in community energy at the heart of the Local Power Plan and Great British Energy. We will continue to increase access to cheaper, cleaner

“Every day we work together to end inequality by tackling barriers in education, health and employment”



energy, and continue our roll out of cycle hangars, EV charging points and redouble our commitment to safer, cleaner streets.

The story of Hackney for many is one of pulling together in our communities and triumphing over adversity. We cannot listen to voices that try to divide us – in Hackney we are turning the page on Conservative austerity and fighting against the division of Reform.

There is so much more to do. We will not let the stories and sacrifices of the people who have

built Hackney be forgotten. We will continue to welcome those who seek refuge. **We will always listen and work with residents whose experiences show us what is needed from our council.** We want every child to grow up fiercely proud of Hackney, to have access to every opportunity, and to fill their lives with the stories of a borough like ours. **Hackney – the people's borough, where we're leading the way.**

Caroline Woodley
Mayor of Hackney

OUR RECORD

Over the last four years Hackney Labour has been working with residents and in partnership with local organisations to make a better Hackney in every neighbourhood across our borough – here are 25 highlights:



We've built better council homes

1. Our Hackney Labour council has built thousands of new, high quality council homes, **designed with residents for residents**. Our directly delivered council homes for social rent are RIBA award winning, affordable and great to live in.
2. Our Labour council has supported residents through a period of severe financial hardship and crisis, **prevented thousands of homelessness cases** and housed those most in need.



Stood up for renters

3. Hackney Labour successfully lobbied central government to **end Section 21 'no fault' evictions**, ban bidding wars so that the advertised price of a rental home is the final price that tenants pay, and raise the standards of rented accommodation.
4. We drove ahead with **landlord licensing** across the borough, to improve conditions, offer greater security to tenants and value our network of responsible landlords.



Challenged Homelessness

5. In Hackney, we've created a dedicated cross-agency team in Health, Social Care and Housing to act on the new national Duty to Collaborate, **ensuring no one is discharged from hospital or released from prison into homelessness**.
6. Extended the **Hackney Promise for Care Leavers** ensuring they are on the housing register by age 18, created a care leavers charter and launched a care leavers hub.



Helped children to thrive

7. Hackney school children secure excellent results, with recent SATS results ranking **joint first in the country**, and we've created hundreds of new places in schools for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).
8. We rolled out our 10 by 10 programme, ensuring that every child in Hackney has access to **10 exciting activities by the age of 10** to improve their emotional, physical and social wellbeing, supported by a network of children's centres, children & family hubs, youth hubs and free to enter adventure playgrounds.
9. We have set out our **Sustainability Education Framework** which is our commitment to teaching children and young people about sustainability and empowering them through climate action.



Tackled poverty and inequality

10. **In Hackney we helped increase incomes of residents by £6.91m** by ensuring that the support they are entitled to is claimed. We met our promise to provide low-income households with a 90% discount on their Council Tax bill, delivered £3.2m in Discretionary Housing Payments and £2.2m in Household Support Fund grants via the Here to Help fund.
11. Hackney has achieved **Borough of Sanctuary** status, reflecting the work we've done over many years to support asylum seekers and refugees. Hackney is an **anti-racist borough** where we have constantly made the positive case for the social, cultural and economic contribution of migrants in our community.



Created a healthier Hackney

12. We've worked with health partners to deliver **two new GP surgeries** in Clapton and Stoke Newington, expanding primary care capacity and access to vital services for residents. We've also delivered **The Better Mental Health** programme, delivering community-based support and training frontline staff in mental health awareness.
13. We've improved resident experience and confidence in **Adult Social Care, and launched a new Adult Carers Strategy supporting carers to access advice, wellbeing support, respite and more**.



Invested in cleaner, cheaper energy

- 14. Hackney is the **first council in the country to directly deliver cheaper, cleaner energy** through our pilot residential solar scheme where we've installed 4,000 solar panels on 27 housing blocks, helping cut bills for around 800 tenants and leaseholders.
- 15. Following the conclusion of the 4th round of our **Hackney Light and Power community energy scheme**, we will have worked with local energy partners to fund, advise and support 75 projects at community organisations to make buildings more energy efficient - cheaper and cleaner to run.
- 16. **We installed** over 1000 cycle hangars, over 1500 EV charging points and developed a network of rain gardens and biodiversity "buzzlines" to increase our sustainability, resilience to flooding and commitment to biodiversity.



Maintained our parks and cleaned up our streets

- 17. 33 of our beautiful parks have been awarded **Green Flags - the highest number in London**. We've renewed 13 play areas, opened an exciting splash pad, installed outdoor gyms, improved multi-use games areas and continued a major refurbishment programme of our leisure centres. We also run award-winning markets.
- 18. We know we also have to get the basics right. That's why we've focused on **maintaining clean and accessible streets throughout the borough**, tackling dog fouling and fly tipping. We've also created over 50km of walkable and cyclable low-traffic roads, increased dropped kerb access across the borough and secured government funding to transform Hackney Central.



Made Hackney safer for all

- 19. Hackney is one of the first boroughs to have introduced a Night Time Strategy, with 51 accredited venues in Hackney adhering to new safety standards, and training provided to 374 staff in Welfare and Vulnerability Engagement **prioritising resident safety and tackling violence against women and girls**.
- 20. Under Hackney Labour, we have seen a decline in robberies and mobile snatching from 15.6% to 8.9% over the last year and convened the first **Anti-Knife Crime Summit** with multi-agency gang prevention teams, the Police and our community partners **driving a coordinated approach toward knife crime prevention**.



Supported small businesses and high streets

- 21. Our free business support programme has **helped 339 local small businesses across the borough to access mentoring, workshops and advice** - safeguarding 115 jobs and generating 20 new enterprises.
- 22. Over 6,580sqm of affordable workspace has been designated in new developments in Hackney and we've continued to support businesses with low waste and circular economy business models. As a result, **Hackney was named the best place to start a business in the UK in 2025**.



Worked to close the skills gap and create employment in new and emerging sectors for all ages across the borough

- 23. **Hackney Council has helped 1000s of Hackney residents into good jobs**, apprenticeships and paid work experience opportunities, invested in skills and adult learning so local people can access long-term sustainable employment, brought 100s of employers into job fairs, social value projects and local hiring schemes, embedded green jobs and sustainable practices into our contracts, and strengthened community partnerships.



Protected the community spaces we love

- 24. We've invested in our libraries, heritage and cultural spaces. **This includes major upgrades** to Hackney Museum, Hackney Central Library, Stoke Newington Library, Stamford Hill Library and from Abney Chapel to a refurbished Hackney Town Hall square.
- 25. Hackney Labour has **worked closely with our voluntary and community partners**, implementing a grant programme that offers up to 5 years of long term support for organisations that help residents facing inequality, and expanding our network of community hubs where resident-led activities thrive.

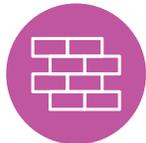
TOP TEN PLEDGES

Over the next four years, we will build on strong foundations with the people of Hackney. We're focused on putting more money in people's pockets and lowering energy bills, providing accessible council housing and creating opportunities for Hackney residents from all walks of life. We will:



1. Cut Council Tax for Low Income Residents

By 2030, we will ensure there is more money in the pockets of struggling households – people on Universal Credit or from a low income household will not have to pay a penny on their Council Tax Bill, as we increase our 90% discount scheme to 100%.



2. Replace Council Homes Lost to Right to Buy

Hackney Labour is on a mission to replace the 10,000 council homes Hackney sold through Right to Buy since it was introduced in the 1980s. We will deliver a ten year plan to **build, buy back, renovate, refurbish and regenerate Council homes**. Working with a Labour Mayor of London and a Labour Government we will tackle the housing crisis head on, creating more secure council housing, more homes for older people, **investing £550m in improvements like replacing lifts, tackling damp and mould and undertaking repairs to fix our homes and make them fit for the future**.



3. Introduce a New Generation of Rent Controlled Homes

Hackney Labour will lead the way, building a new generation of rent controlled homes, aimed at supporting key workers who cannot keep up with skyrocketing rents. Rent will be set at no more than a third of average net annual income.



4. Provide Two New Special Schools for Children with SEND

We will support our family of excellent nurseries and schools, continue to build new provision for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, including two new special schools, so fewer children have to go out of the borough to secure an inclusive education, and work with community partners to help every child to thrive.



5. Cut Mobile Theft in Half by 2030

We will work with communities and local safer neighbourhood teams to clamp down on anti-social behaviour and tackle mobile phone theft. Deploying mobile messaging vans, organising free phone marking sessions across the borough and working with partners on crime prevention.



6. Keep Our Streets Clean with a 25% Increase in Street Sweepers

We will increase our street cleaning team by 25% across the borough and ramp up enforcement against fly tipping on our streets by increasing our workforce, making sure that it's a pleasure to live, work and play in Hackney. You'll see more street sweepers in your area, taking care of your streets.



7. Bring Cheaper Cleaner Energy to 4500 Council Households by 2030

We will continue to lead the country in giving residents cheaper, cleaner energy. By 2030, our residential solar programme will deliver cheaper renewable electricity to 4,500 council households.



8. Double Our Investment in Apprenticeships

We will create more routes into good work, by significantly boosting new apprenticeships, supported internships and paid work experience in key growth sectors using more growth and skills levy funding with employers to grow local jobs, close the skills gap and accelerate a just transition in Hackney.



9. Deliver an Affordable Food Network in Every Neighbourhood

We will develop a neighbourhood-based and co-operative food distribution network with residents, the voluntary and community sector, and the NHS so that everyone has access to affordable healthy food, real choice and better protection from food poverty and rising food costs. We will ensure these food networks serve the diverse cultural makeup of our borough.



10. Celebrate Art, Culture and Communities in Every Ward in Our Borough

We will champion the innovation and creativity of the people who make Hackney a place of pride. We will share Hackney's story through art, culture and public events, creating a Hackney Carnival Trust, developing our libraries into community hubs, and taking a community-led approach to local services, **where the people of Hackney will continue to lead the way.**

TACKLING POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

KEY PLEDGE - CUT COUNCIL TAX FOR LOW INCOME RESIDENTS

By 2030, we will ensure there is more money in the pockets of struggling households – people on Universal Credit or from a low income household will not have to pay a penny on the Council Tax Bill, as we increase our 90% discount scheme to 100%.



Hackney has been hard hit by the cost of living crisis. Our Labour council will **continue to support residents in need**, identifying what help is required and ensuring council tax discounts, pension credits and grants are claimed by everyone entitled to them.

We will **tackle everyday inequalities** across the borough,

targeting extra support at neighbourhoods highest on the Index of Multiple Deprivation in the north of the borough, with a focused offer on jobs, skills and help with food costs.

We will work with employers to tackle inequality in the workplace, promoting fair pay, and targeting sectors where diversity gaps remain.

We will launch an **Employment and Skills Strategic Partnership**, including colleges, universities with campuses in Hackney, and community partners to create clear pathways into good, secure local jobs through apprenticeships, supported internships, volunteering and training.

We will maintain constructive relationships with local trade unions by meeting regularly, marking key events like International Workers Memorial

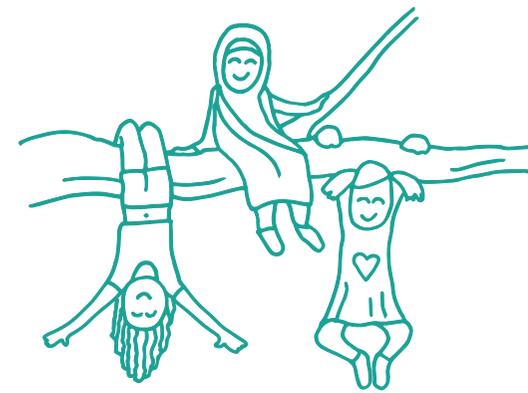


Day each year, supporting Heart Unions Week, and encouraging people to join the trade union movement.

We believe Hackney should work for everyone. No one's life fits neatly into one box, and our decisions shouldn't either, so we will make sure major funding, investment and policy choices are guided by fairness and understanding, and we will upskill staff and partners to design and deliver policies so that no part of our community carries a heavier burden than others.

We will continue to **open up accessibility** and uphold the social model of disability, understanding that people are disabled by societal barriers – such as inaccessible environments, prejudicial attitudes, and discriminatory organisational policies – rather than by impairments or conditions.

We are proud to lead an **anti-racist council** and will embed anti-racist principles in all our policies, services and decisions, focusing on concrete action and outcomes. We will renew and deliver our equalities plan, continue the Review, Rename, Reclaim work to remove names that symbolise racist histories and replace them with the names of people who have made a positive contribution to Hackney, and we will work with residents on the next phase of changes.



We will mark key UN awareness and memorial days and ensure that our **commitment to our diverse histories and LGBT+ communities** are reflected in events, education and cultural programmes all year round.

We will strengthen our response to the Windrush scandal by joining and playing a leading role in the Windrush Commissioner's councils network, working for **justice and practical support** for those affected by the Home Office Windrush scandal, alongside celebrating Windrush Day.

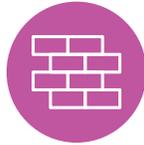
We are an accredited **Borough of Sanctuary** and will support partners wishing to join the City of Sanctuary network. Sanctuary status will build on years of work supporting migrants, refugees, sanctuary seekers, and residents with no recourse to public funds.

Hackney Labour will always make the positive case for the social, cultural and economic contribution of migrants in our community.

CREATING SECURE, AFFORDABLE HOMES

KEY PLEDGE - REPLACE COUNCIL HOMES LOST TO RIGHT TO BUY

Hackney Labour is on a mission to replace the 10,000 council homes Hackney sold through Right to Buy since it was introduced in the 1980s. We will deliver a ten year plan to build, buy back, renovate, refurbish and regenerate Council homes. Working with a Labour Mayor of London and a Labour Government we will tackle the housing crisis head on, creating more secure council housing, more homes for older people, investing £550m in improvements like replacing lifts, tackling damp and mould and undertaking repairs to fix our homes and make them fit for the future.



Our Labour Council will prioritise securing **housing for social rent, rent-controlled homes and temporary accommodation**. On all council owned sites we will aim for a net gain of social housing delivered directly by the council.

We will ensure that our plan includes a range of more affordable housing

options, including “intermediate” below market-rate housing.

When we have the opportunity to buy property to provide temporary accommodation we will prioritise properties located within our borough. We will always consider the suitability of buildings we own for re-provision as housing or temporary accommodation.

We will be fully focused on repairs and refurbishment across our social housing and estates, ensuring that people living in council owned homes are served by our targeted repairs work force. **Everyone in Hackney deserves a safe and secure home.**

We will deliver a **New Deal for Tenants and Residents**



Associations (TRA's), investing in more support for residents who run a TRA, making sure that the Council is engaging with and delivering for TRA's the housing services and repairs for homes through a new approach to locally based services rather than a borough wide one size fits all approach.



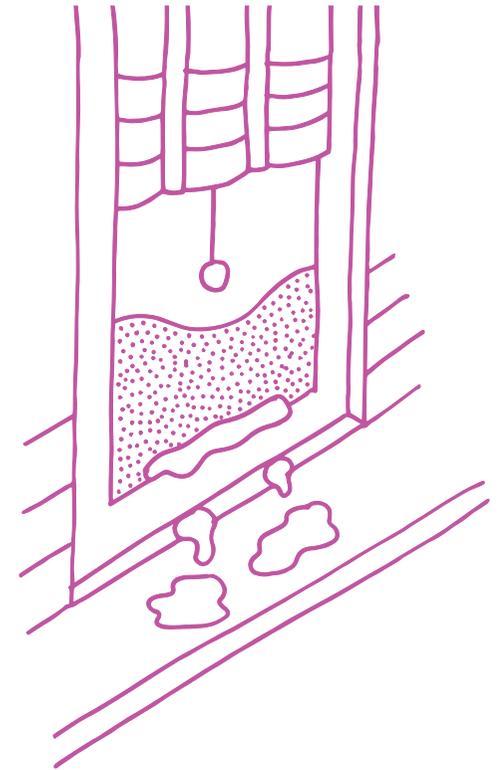
We will work with Tenant Management Organisations, Housing Associations and housing partners to **share best practice** and advocacy.

We will work with local voluntary and community sector partners to **reduce homelessness and rough sleeping in the borough**. We will continue to invest in early intervention services, tenancy support and eviction prevention so fewer people reach the point of crisis. Prioritising prevention, inline with the national homelessness prevention plan.

We will provide **tailored support** for care leavers, survivors of domestic abuse, people with complex needs, and people with substance dependency to ensure safe, stable housing pathways.

We will continue to develop **local home swapper schemes** to better match existing tenants with homes that meet their needs.

With our approach to renovation, refurbishment and regeneration, we will firmly adhere to **Awaab's Law**



- tackling damp and mould, and meeting safety regulations.



Our **Housing Improvement Plan**

will ensure that you can access our Housing Service quickly and efficiently. With reduced waiting times and improved systems we will make sure all homes in Hackney are safe and secure.

We will improve Housing Services by bringing them back into our council estates and neighbourhoods - a local service delivering quality Council Housing support and repairs.

STANDING UP FOR RENTERS

KEY PLEDGE - INTRODUCE A NEW GENERATION OF RENT CONTROLLED HOMES



Hackney Labour will lead the way, building a new generation of rent controlled homes, aimed at supporting key workers who cannot keep up with skyrocketing rents. Rent will be set at no more than a third of average net annual income.

We will deliver our Private Rented Sector Housing Strategy, ensuring that private renters in Hackney have access to quality homes.

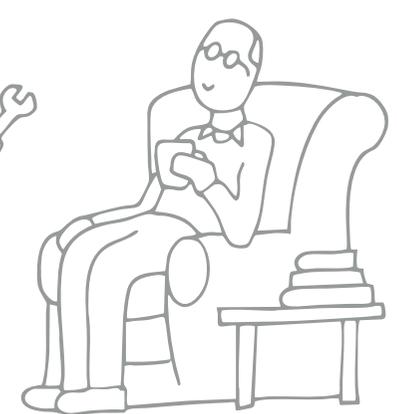
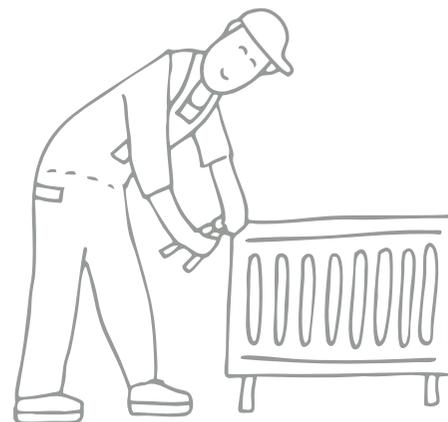
We will collaboratively engage with private landlords to tackle issues of damp and mould, maintaining high quality housing across the borough.

Use our expanded private rented sector enforcement team to fully implement the Renters Rights Act and explore how we can best help renters to navigate features of the Act such as challenging rent rises at tribunal.



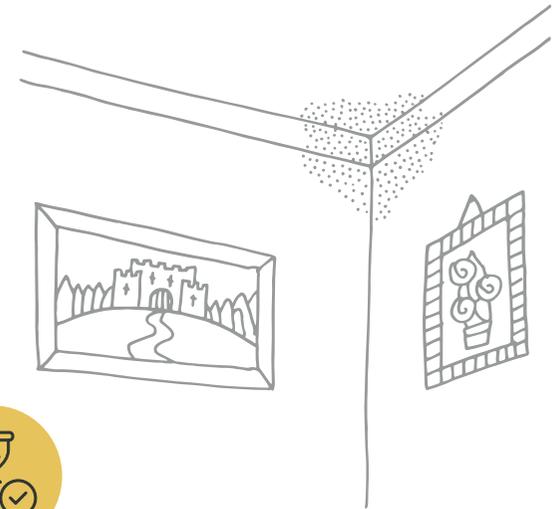
We will also increase enforcement capacity to ensure that private landlords fulfill their duties to tenants.

We will tackle empty properties across the borough by exploring options such as repayable grant assistance for first-time buyers



to purchase long-term empty homes at the lower end of the housing market and providing repayable depositing funding to secure a mortgage. We will also consider the Council acting as a guarantor on first-time buyer mortgages on empty homes.

We'll work to future proof our existing Council homes with cost effective adaptations, such as small ramps, grab or handrails to meet everyone's housing needs. We will also explore equity loans to improve the health and safety of our properties and promote the use of minor adaptations to keep residents living in their homes for longer.



Through our landlord licensing scheme we will be reducing deprivation and inequalities across the private rented sector and tackling anti-social behaviour associated with privately rented housing.

DELIVERING FOR EVERY CHILD IN HACKNEY

KEY PLEDGE - PROVIDE TWO NEW SPECIAL SCHOOLS FOR CHILDREN WITH SEND



We will support our family of excellent nurseries and schools, continue to build new provision for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, including two new special schools, so fewer children have to go out of the borough to secure an inclusive education, and work with community partners to help every child to thrive.

We will support every child to have the best start in life from early childhood, offering early help services in collaboration with our health partners, parent and carer networks, our Children and Family hubs and network of children's centres.

Via our wellbeing and mental health in schools project we will deliver a data-led, **measurable mental health service** that delivers for young people in Hackney. Through our health spots

in our youth hubs we will offer further support for pupil wellbeing, with a focus on exam wellbeing.

We do not want to see children excluded from schools in Hackney and will work with parents, carers, senior leaders, school governors and community partners to uphold **a child centred approach to behaviour policy** and embed inclusion and early intervention as common practice.



We will fully launch and implement the **Hackney Education Alternative Learning Service (HEALS)** programme, removing barriers to education in Hackney and making inclusive education work for all children in Hackney.

We will support schools and partners to ensure children in Hackney have access to our preparing for adulthood programme, guaranteeing that **whatever path they choose, they feel supported.**

We will deliver a SEND living charter – a groundbreaking new commitment to focus on and resource the living spaces of all children with additional needs in Hackney. Cross departmental and drawing on the work of various trusted stakeholders we will review the current offer and drive forward change and support for all those impacted.

We will work alongside the new government education strategy to **reduce structural and systemic barriers to learning, helping all Hackney children to thrive.** This will include a groundbreaking data driven pilot to address the systemic barriers to learning in our young black cohort.

We will review and **strengthen our offer** for all children with additional learning needs such as dyslexia.

We recognise the growth in one of the largest school cohorts in the borough. We will convene a working



group regarding education in our Charedi communities and ensure **all of our Hackney communities are part of our strategic plan.**

In line with the National Youth Strategy, **we will deliver our local youth strategy**, investing further in Young Hackney services, our youth hubs and adventure playgrounds – ensuring young people in Hackney have access to play, mentoring programmes, integrated health services and clear pathways to creative and employment opportunities.

We will encourage young people in Hackney to be **active citizens** via the Hackney Citizen Programme, and continue our commitment to Hackney Young Futures which is our Framework for ensuring youth and policy engagement is Council wide.

We will support the national Youth Guarantee, exploring opportunities for young people to contribute to the local economy, with a focus on young entrepreneurs, youth workers and young rangers in our parks and green spaces.

MAKING HACKNEY SAFER FOR ALL

KEY PLEDGE - CUT MOBILE THEFT IN HALF BY 2030

We will work with communities and local safer neighbourhood teams to clamp down on anti-social behaviour and tackle mobile phone theft. Deploying mobile messaging vans, organising free phone marking sessions across the borough and working with partners on crime prevention.



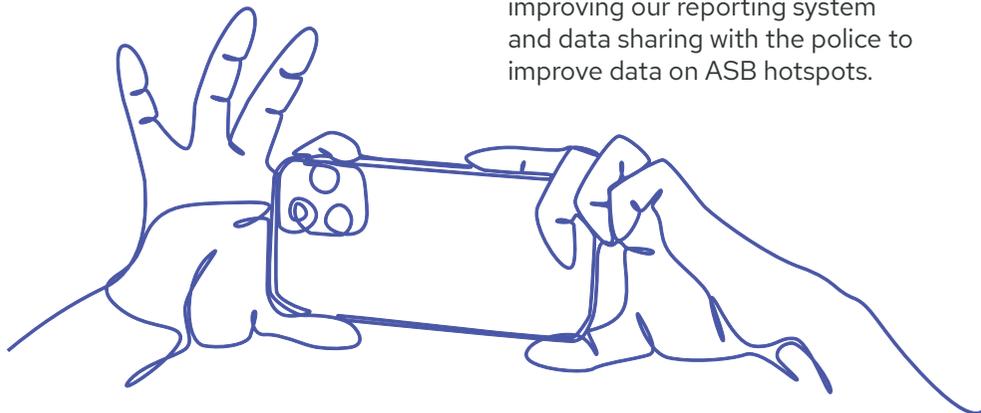
We will work with our community safety partners and Hackney communities to **ensure residents are safe at home, at work and in our public spaces.**

We will hold local policing in Hackney to account, to ensure it is consistently fair, proportionate, and non-discriminatory, upholding the human rights and dignity of every resident.

We will continue to work with the community and the police together, to improve trust and confidence and to scrutinise the use of police powers in Hackney.

We will balance the needs of businesses, residents and visitors through robust licensing, enhanced public safety measures and strategic cultural programming.

We will reinforce our work to **tackle noise and anti-social behaviour,** improving our reporting system and data sharing with the police to improve data on ASB hotspots.

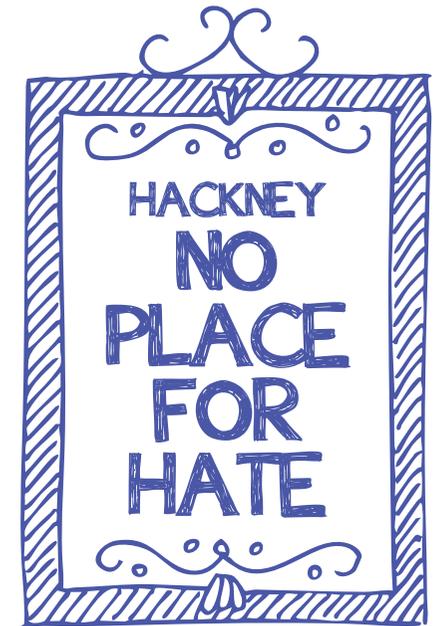


We will continue to make Hackney No Place for Hate and develop a Community Cohesion Strategy, underpinned by shared values and aims to build safer, stronger, more connected, and resilient communities.

We will address the rise in antisemitism and Islamophobia in Hackney head on, demonstrating the valuable contributions our diverse communities of all faiths and none bring to our borough. Where the far right seeks to divide our Jewish and Muslim communities we will always celebrate our history of living and working together in Hackney, peacefully, collaboratively, side by side.

We will ensure Hackney Council works across borough boundaries and looks to collaborate and partner with neighbouring councils where our objectives and local services complement each other to **create and maintain safe, livable neighbourhoods** for residents and businesses.

We will make tailored interventions to break cycles of violence and exploitation. We will tackle misogyny and promote healthy relationships through supporting schools and other stakeholders to ensure girls are safe, raising awareness and actively addressing problematic behaviours through innovative professional practice.



We will create and launch a new Strategy for Ending Sexual Exploitation, building on good work already done within Hackney by strengthening our whole-system approach to protecting some of our most vulnerable residents.

We will provide support for survivors of domestic abuse to help them recover from trauma and work with professionals and community and faith groups across Hackney to help ensure that services are delivered in a trauma-informed way.

We will ensure Hackney's Night Time Economy spaces are safer for everyone. We will work with the police to reduce crime, and tackle violence against women and girls in our public spaces.

TAKING CARE OF OUR ENVIRONMENT



KEY PLEDGE - KEEP OUR STREETS CLEAN WITH A 25% INCREASE IN STREET SWEEPERS

We will increase our street cleaning team by 25% across the borough and ramp up enforcement against fly tipping on our streets by increasing our workforce, making sure that it's a pleasure to live, work and play in Hackney. You'll see more street sweepers in your area, taking care of your streets.



We will invest in educating and supporting residents to manage their waste and recycling and enforce against businesses that illegally dump.

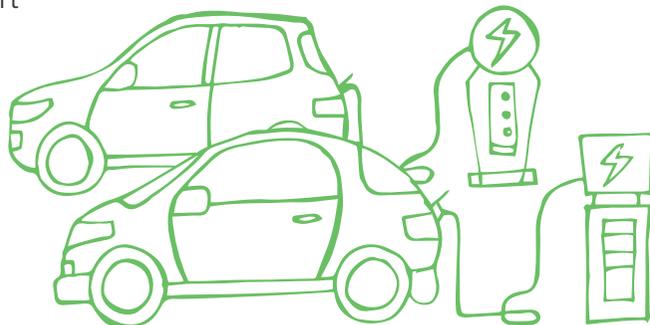
We will continue to make our streets safe and accessible for residents, supporting walking and wheeling and reduce mobility challenges.

We will develop our 10-year transport strategy to ensure healthy neighbourhoods and accessible transport for all, building on the Mayor of London's Transport Strategy.

We will look at ways to use our kerbsides more effectively, from parking for people with disabilities, managing dockless bike hires, cargo

bikes, EV charging points, to safer crossings and car clubs. We'll also review our cycling and walking network, and support Transport for London in keeping our public transport networks functioning smoothly, ensuring there are safe and enjoyable routes to places to work and play throughout the borough.

We will commit to meeting WHO air quality targets, as set out in our Air Quality Action plan, and increase our school streets enforcement.



We will protect local wildlife and valued green spaces, ensuring every resident has access to nature and space to exercise and play.

We will bring back Christmas tree collections and support local composting and green waste disposal schemes.

We will support a greater connection with nature through making space for reflection, working with partners to create butterfly and bee corridors and commission art and nature projects to create spaces of curiosity, discovery and belonging.

We will work to increase our Green Flag awards from 33 to 35 and continue our exciting programme of improving play areas.



We have renewed 13 play areas since 2020 and in 2026 we will be starting work on play areas in Clissold Park, London Fields and Millfields.

We will continue working with dedicated volunteer groups to maximise tree planting and restoration of natural habitats in our parks and waterways, and with support from the Greater London Authority, London Wildlife Trust and the Canal and River Trust we will continue developing and expanding sites of importance for nature conservation.

We will continue to work with health partners, youth and voluntary and community organisations to develop our network of activities



in our parks and green spaces, from making use of our multi-use games areas, tennis courts, BMX and skate parks, to building outdoor gyms and welcoming our regular attractions such as circus acts, fun fairs and more.

We will work in partnership to support major events such as the Hackney Half marathon, enabling hundreds of charities to raise millions of pounds every year.



TACKLING THE CLIMATE CRISIS

KEY PLEDGE - BRING CHEAPER CLEANER ENERGY TO 4500 COUNCIL HOUSEHOLDS BY 2030

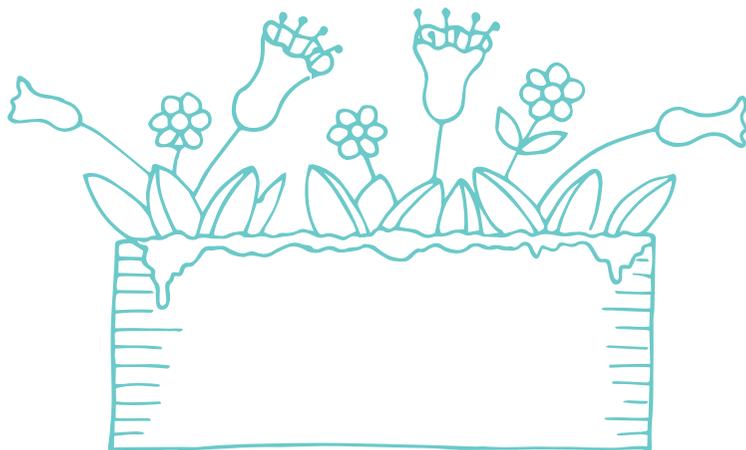
We will continue to lead the country in giving residents cheaper, cleaner energy. By 2030, our residential solar programme will deliver cheaper renewable electricity to 4,500 council households.



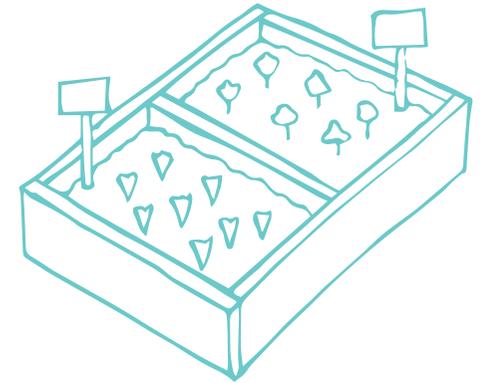
Hackney Labour will invest in clean energy owned by the community and for the community, connecting residents to cheaper energy that lowers their bills

Through our Labour council's Hackney Light and Power programme we will continue to install residential solar on

council housing, schools and leisure centres. We will introduce further rounds of community energy funding that so far have benefited 75 projects in community organisations ranging from local churches and mosques, community halls and adventure playgrounds to the roof of the Hackney Empire.



Hackney Light and Power's community energy programme will benefit entire neighbourhoods, working with community groups to **make a major contribution to Community Energy London's 1,000 projects across the capital.** And we will also help home owners to make it easier to make the changes they need for homes to be fit for the future.

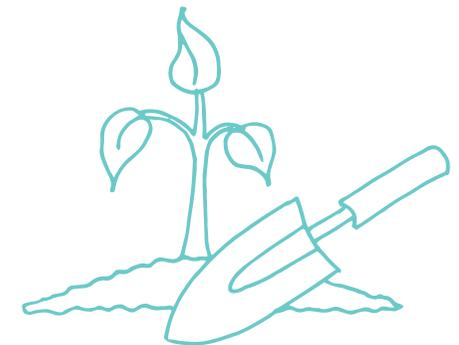


We will prepare residents for the shift to cleaner ways to travel including electric vehicles, **putting in 3,000 EV charging points across the borough,** on our streets and our estates and providing cheaper energy tariffs for Hackney residents through Hackney Light and Power. Hackney is the best place to cycle in London and we're continuing to add more cycle hangars on streets and estates to store your bikes.



We will deliver a place-based approach to the climate crisis, making sure that our borough is resilient: planting trees to provide cooling shade and protection, reducing flood risk in our neighbourhoods through installing rain gardens and improving our roads.

We will work as one council, **embedding climate action into the wider circular economy,** supporting our networks of businesses, community groups and residents to enjoy more sustainable practices.



We will support the **Right to Grow and develop our Food Security Strategy,** as part of our work to protect residents from the impacts of the climate crisis and changing weather conditions and to make sure that Hackney is a great borough to live in now and in the future.

We will deliver Hackney Council's Climate Action Plan, committing to net zero emissions by 2040.



SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL ECONOMY



KEY PLEDGE - DOUBLE OUR INVESTMENT IN APPRENTICESHIPS

We will create more routes into good work, by significantly boosting new apprenticeships, supported internships and paid work experience in key growth sectors using more growth and skills levy funding with employers to grow local jobs, close the skills gap and accelerate a just transition in Hackney.



Our Labour council has developed a wide network of partners and businesses, supporting small start up organisations that may shift and change over time, and collaborating with larger organisations that have a strong and lasting community presence, which can act as “anchors”.

We will reconvene the anchor network, **connecting Hackney to**

the private and public sector to encourage the growth of local and social businesses in the borough.

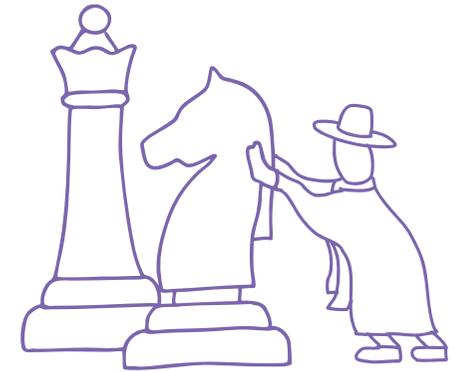
We will introduce a business rate cut for micro businesses that sign up to our responsible business charter. The rate cut will benefit small local businesses who sign up to the relaunched charter, pledging to a suite of commitments including raising standards at work, being a London Living Wage employer and taking steps to move towards net

zero. In Hackney we are committed to doing what we can to **support small businesses to thrive and to shape economic growth in our borough.**

We will protect the markets that sit at the heart of our community and local economy, such as Ridley Road, Broadway Market and Chatsworth Road. We will also continue to support small, independent businesses via our Impact Initiative, **crucially supporting and uplifting businesses from underrepresented communities.**

We will develop an **affordable workspace and affordable commercial lease offer** on council assets that support young entrepreneurs in key sectors to grow.

We will do our utmost to boost our local high street, through promoting our town centres via the Love Hackney, Shop Local campaign. We will continue outreach and a strong working relationship with local businesses, breaking down barriers for local



small businesses to contract with the council.

We will roll out a sustainable procurement strategy

that integrates social value, supports our diverse local suppliers and ensures funds contribute to a more equitable and climate-resilient borough.

We will create a local business supplier list, increasing our social value requirement by 20% making it one of the highest in the country.

We will continue with our Insourcing Policy that all contracted services should be reviewed for insourcing.



HEALTHY NEIGHBOURHOODS

KEY PLEDGE - DELIVER AN AFFORDABLE FOOD NETWORK IN EVERY NEIGHBOURHOOD

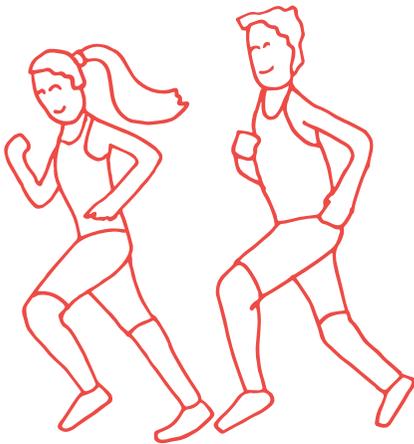


We will develop a neighbourhood-based and co-operative food distribution network with residents, the voluntary and community sector, and the NHS so that everyone has access to affordable healthy food, real choice and better protection from food poverty and rising food costs. We will ensure these food networks serve the diverse cultural makeup of our borough.

We will deliver a neighbourhood approach to health, using council assets and resources to connect residents with the healthcare they deserve and create the conditions that keep people healthy.

We will work with health partners to **reduce health inequalities**, especially in our ageing population, across Hackney, ensuring every Hackney resident has access to quality healthcare. We will take an age-friendly health creation approach to how we spend our Public health grant.

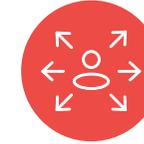
We will continue to support unpaid carers and improve access to support for care-givers, fulfilling the commitments made to them in our Carers Strategy.



We will reduce our care act assessment waiting times, fulfilling our Adult Social Care commitments and **delivering for vulnerable adults across Hackney.**

We will invest additional resources in **coordinating our adult social care and housing services**, recognising that vulnerable adults often need support across a range of council services.

We will accelerate progress towards **a more smokefree Hackney** by intensifying action in communities with the highest smoking rates, strengthening stop-smoking support, and creating healthier



smokefree environments across the borough.

We will protect the freedom pass, ensuring older residents can access transport across the borough.



INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITIES

KEY PLEDGE - CELEBRATE ART, CULTURE AND COMMUNITIES IN EVERY WARD IN OUR BOROUGH



We will champion the innovation and creativity of the people who make Hackney a place of pride. We will share Hackney's story through art, culture and public events, creating a Hackney Carnival Trust, developing our libraries into community hubs, and taking a community-led approach to local services, where the people of Hackney will continue to lead the way.



Creativity, cultural heritage and celebration of arts and culture are at the heart of why we love Hackney.

Our Labour council will continue to **capture highlights in the Love Hackney newspaper and website**, engage in key annual events such as the Mayor's Music Awards, carnival showcases and local theatre performances, and celebrate 20 years of Discover Young Hackney at the annual Alter Ego event at the Hackney Empire in 2027.

We support many communities day in day out, **raising profiles on key awareness days** and expanding them to weeks, months or even all year round, as with Pride 365 and Black History 365.

We will support art hubs and corridors from the Windrush sculptures in our Town Hall Square

and on the Narrow Way to artist-run studios, connecting art with the stories of Hackney and also with nature and places for respite and reflection.

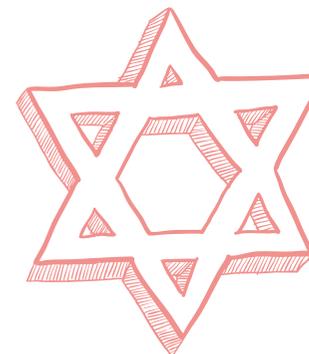
We will work with our carnival groups to help them **establish a Hackney Carnival Trust** to support a carnival parade in the borough.

We will refurbish King's Hall Leisure Centre, Clissold Leisure Centre and West Reservoir, **providing world class fitness, health and wellbeing amenities** across our network of leisure centres, multi-use games areas, open water swimming, sailing and splash pads.

We will implement our voluntary and community sector strategy, working with partners to **bring more investment into the borough** to support the most vulnerable communities.



We will extend the community grants programme, providing funding for vital projects in our community, and ensure that key decision-making that impacts our community spaces sits directly



within our communities, to review options and collaborate on finding solutions.

We will launch a new community asset collaborative with VCS and NHS partners to explore how we create **a new generation of community hubs to bring services closer to local residents**. We will review how our community assets can be revived and repurposed to serve our neighbourhoods.

We will continue to invest in community cohesion, building out our faith forum to work collaboratively with faith leaders and **create spaces for residents to safely gather and practice their faith**.

We will work with community partners to apply for 2031 borough of culture status, reflecting our pride in Hackney's outstanding creative culture.



AFTERWORD

Hackney Labour is dedicated to maintaining a well run, strong and democratic Council. That means making a balanced annual budget, which guarantees value for money from high-quality council services that benefit the whole community. Our strong management and focus on resilience means we have always been able to stand up for the most vulnerable and navigate a clear path through crisis.

Democracy and Accountability

Your Labour Mayor and councillors will continue to be accountable to the people of Hackney. We will keep our decision-making open and transparent, accepting public questions, deputations and petitions as well as working with community partners and stakeholders to shape policy.



Community Engagement

We will continue to be an open, responsive and collaborative organisation, prioritising engagement and feedback from residents. All proposals that need to go through a formal engagement or consultation process will continue to be published on the Council's consultation hub, distributed in hard copy and openly discussed at Council-run drop-ins, ward councillor's ward forums and neighbourhood panels.



Constitution and Respected Scrutiny Commissions

We will maintain a fair and robust constitution that enables Council business to be undertaken effectively and invest in the widely respected and independent scrutiny commissions held at the Council. Currently focussed on Housing, Health, Children & Young People, and Skills, Economy & Growth these commissions ensure the Mayor, Cabinet and council officers regularly answer questions and report back to residents.



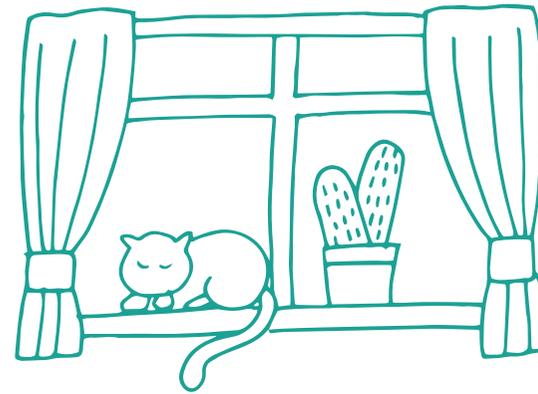
Collaboration

We will continue to work in partnership with neighbouring Councils, recognising the strength of working collaboratively with fellow Labour Councils and City Hall to enact change and impact the direction of this Labour Government. We will maintain our cross-borough partnerships to meet local needs and ensure residents have access to the best services.



You Said, We Did

We will share progress on our pledges and commitments set out in this manifesto and the wide range of progressive strategies and plans we publish, taking what you tell us you'd like to see happen in our borough and working with you to share what we achieve together.



Vote  **Labour**

 **Thursday 7th May**

HACKNEY

THE PEOPLE'S BOROUGH

**LEADING
THE WAY**

Hackney
 **Labour**

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