



City Innovation Snapshot BRISTOL, United Kingdom

Overview

- ▶ **Mayor:** Marvin Rees
- ▶ **Term:** 2016 - 2021
- ▶ **Innovation Lead:** Freyja Lockwood
- ▶ **Population size:** 463 400 (2019)
- ▶ **Innovation / open data website:**

bristolonecity.com

connectingbristol.org

opendata.bristol.gov.uk/

What is the organisational structure?

As part of Bristol City Council's Growth and Regeneration Division, the in-house City Innovation Team consists of **8 staff**.

Staff skills and profiles include:

- Project Manager
- Design Thinking / User-Centred Design
- Anthropologist / Sociologist / Social Scientist
- Community Engagement
- Social Innovation



Spotlight | One City Plan

Bristol's One City Plan, launched in early 2019, sets the vision that by 2050 Bristol will be a fair, healthy, inclusive, and sustainable city that is digitally enabled with world-class infrastructure for all. The goals in Bristol's One City Plan are decided and agreed by partners across the city and not just by the council. The goals are set out through six thematic lenses, mapped against the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. A dedicated Dashboard links to data sets related to the One City Plan goals. Part of Bristol's One City Plan involves a £10m investment fund for city initiatives, including those focused on innovation.

Bristol's City Innovation Team is supporting delivery of the One City Plan, helping to work toward achieving Bristol's shared One City vision through the use of innovation and technology.

What is the city's innovation vision?

Like 50% of cities surveyed, Bristol has no **formal innovation strategy**.

The city most closely associates innovation capacity with:

- **Big picture re-thinking**
- **Bold leadership**

What is the city's innovation approach?

Similar to 24% of cities surveyed, Bristol approaches innovation capacity in **specific policy areas**.

The top two priority policy areas for the city's innovation work are:

Sustainability

Inclusive Growth

What innovation partnerships exist?

Bristol has developed partnerships to **promote innovation capacity** with other public agencies, private firms, not-for-profit organisations, and city residents/resident associations.

To **improve data use**, the city has also developed data partnerships with the private sector, private philanthropy, academia and think tanks, to collect and analyse data, as well as with other cities. The Know Your Place partnership saw seven local authorities join together to develop a digital heritage mapping application, hosted by Bristol.



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What funding is available?

Like 81% of cities surveyed, Bristol has dedicated funding to support innovation capacity, which comes from the following sources:

- **International/multilateral institution budget**
- **Higher levels of government**
- **Municipal budget** (city council approved funds)

Funding tends to be project specific and deliver innovation outcomes rather than directly supporting innovation capacity. Bristol's funding for innovation capacity is generally directed towards **training staff and building capacity, generating ideas and brainstorming, investing in digital systems and physical infrastructure.**



How is innovation helping the city?

- ✓ **Anticipating and managing future challenges**
- ✓ **Improving internal government operations**
- ✓ **Improving service delivery**

The most critical success factors in supporting the city's innovation work are **dedicated funding, a focus on metrics, a dedicated innovation team, support from the broader community and leadership from the Mayor.**



How is data used?

Data plays a **significant role** in the decision-making and innovation efforts in Bristol. However, the city does not currently use data to align its budget process with its strategic priorities. One of the challenges preventing the use of data to support innovation goals is that **data are seldom shared among agencies.**

Bristol **publishes open data** to a central, public online location and **provides clear how-to guidance** to help residents access and use city data.



How are outcomes measured?

Policy areas **with sufficient data** or **without sufficient data** to support innovation capacity in the city.

Transport / Mobility	Economic Development	Housing	Policing and Law Enforcement	Health
Government Finance	Waste and Sewage	Labour Market and Skills	Environment and Climate Change	Education
Culture	Social Inclusion, Equity	Public Works	Tourism	Digital Governance