

Greens claim second spot in Bristol Mayor election



Green Party

9 May 2021

- **Green Bristol Mayor candidate Sandy Hore-Ruthven finishes second, securing 43.5% of the vote**
- **Hore-Ruthven: “there’s huge demand for real action on the big challenges that Bristol faces”**

The Green Party has recorded its first-ever second place result in an election for a directly-elected mayor. Bristol Mayor candidate Sandy Hore-Ruthven went toe-to-toe with the current Labour mayor Marvin Rees, who both reached the second round of counting.

The result follows strong results for the Green Party’s Metro Mayor candidate Jerome Thomas and PCC candidate Cleo Lake, who both finished second within the Bristol counting area. Expectations are high for numerous Green gains once the Bristol City Council results are declared today.

Hore-Ruthven said: “This is a landmark result for the Green Party in Bristol – there is no doubt at all now that the Green Party is a major party in this city.”

“I’m so thankful to everybody who voted Green. You have declared clearly that we must tackle the climate emergency, and we must recover from the pandemic in a way that doesn’t leave anybody behind. We must make sure there are good jobs and affordable homes for all, and we must have constructive leadership where we work together to tackle the problems we face.”

“I know the Green councillors who will be elected tomorrow will hit the ground running to provide Bristol with the Green leadership that voters have called for, and to make certain Bristol becomes a greener and fairer city.”

He added: “Congratulations to Marvin Rees on his victory – I wish him the best in leading the city. I have loved every minute of this campaign – meeting people from all walks of life, seeing the amazing businesses, the strength of our communities and marvelling at the incredible diversity of Bristol. It has made me love our city even more.”

Attention now turns to the city council election count, where all 70

councillor seats are up for grabs. The Greens say they are feeling quietly confident of further breakthroughs across Bristol.

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Notes

Hore-Ruthven is pronounced "Hoare-Riven"

Sandy Hore-Ruthven has been Chief Executive of Bristol charity Creative Youth Network for the last 15 years, taking it from a small charity with a handful of staff to the largest youth charity of its kind in the UK, supporting around ten thousand young people each year.

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Greens expecting record number of council seats



Green Party

7 May 2021

- **Party has already won 71 seats including 56 new seats**
- **Gained representation on nine new councils for the first time with most of the results still to come**

The Green Party is on course to celebrate another set of record results with more Green councillors on more councils across the country than ever before, extending the party's record gains two years ago.

The Greens have already won a total of 71 seats, including 56 new seats, and gained representation on nine new councils for the first time in this year's local elections so far [1].

The party has so far seen their first councillors elected to seats such as Stockport, Hastings and Derbyshire County Council, while also making significant gains in more established areas such as Sheffield, which has now been taken in to no overall control.

Elsewhere, the party has won its first seat on Manchester City Council for the first time since 2004, gained six new seats on Suffolk County Council, taking the total to nine, and a further three seats so far in Burnley, taking the total to five. [2]

Green Party co-leader Jonathan Bartley said: "It has already become clear that we are in a new era and there are no no-go areas for Green politics anymore.

"Whether that's in Burnley or Brighton and Hove, people are turning to the Greens as they know we will not take their vote for granted.

"It is clear the world has changed and people know that a new Green politics is what is needed. It is the Greens that are offering hope and the promise of a better future as we begin to recover from this terrible pandemic.

"Our members, supporters and councillors are bringing change from the bottom to create a Green recovery for all.

"These results show clearly that people want an alternative to the broken and fragmenting two party system which has dominated for so long and caused so much mistrust and damage.

"Greens are now representing communities up and down the country and people can see the impact they make."

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Notes

1

The new councils on which Greens are represented:

Stockport

Northumberland County Council

Hastings

Derbyshire County Council

East Sussex County Council

County Durham Unitary

Halton Borough Council

Northamptonshire North Unitary

Full results are available here:

https://campaigns.greenparty.org.uk/local-election-results-2021/?utm_source=vote&utm_medium=nav&utm_campaign=results

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[Greens take Sheffield City Council to no overall control](#)



Green Party

7 May 2021

- **Labour council leader unseated by Green candidate**
- **Party gains five seats across the city**

The Green Party has taken Sheffield City Council to no overall control after gaining a further five seats, meaning Labour has lost its majority in the city.

The Greens increased their number of seats on the council from eight to 13. This means they now have the potential to enter negotiations with Labour and the Liberal Democrats on running the council.

Green Party councillor Douglas Johnson said:

“It is hugely significant that the council has moved to no overall control so the three parties will be forced to work together. This also makes Sheffield the largest city where Greens hold a balance of power.

“Sheffield’s 13 Green councillors are taking their rightful position as the third largest party on Sheffield City Council.

“We will continue to push the agenda on the climate emergency, open democracy

and community-led action. We now look forward to working alongside the Labour and LibDem groups and will make our decisions in the next few days in the best interests of the people of Sheffield.”

Johnson also said:

“I am particularly delighted to welcome Christine Gilligan-Kubo as a new councillor who has unseated the Labour Leader of the Council. That in itself will help a fresh start as the three parties have to work together. Christine will be a great asset, along with the five new faces on the councillor group.”

The results in Sheffield come as Greens are making gains across the country.

The Greens have won a total of 44 seats overall, including 31 gains, and gained representation on six new councils in this year’s local elections so far.

Green Party co-leader Jonathan Bartley said:

“The historic gains that the Greens have made in Sheffield, are good news for the council and good news for everyone who lives here. It means an even stronger Green voice at the time when local people need it most, whether that is to improve the lives of the people in the city now or securing their future..

“It is clear the world has changed. It is the Greens that are offering hope and a plan for a green recovery that benefits everyone.”

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[Jonathan Bartley welcomes early Green gains across the country](#)



Green Party

7 May 2021

Green Party co-leader Jonathan Bartley has welcomed the early set of results which show Green gains across the country.

As results only start to come through, the Greens have already seen a total of 22 councillors elected, 17 of which are gains from the Conservatives, Labour and the Liberal Democrats.

The party has also been elected to four new councils for the first time: Northumberland, Stockport, Hastings and Derbyshire.

Bartley said:

“There is still a long way to go, but I’m delighted to see Greens winning across the country, including gaining our first seats in Stockport, Northumberland, Hastings and Derbyshire. It’s clear that there are no no-go areas for Greens anymore.

“We are winning seats in areas that have traditionally been thought of as Labour and Conservative. Green politics is on the rise and it is only the Green Party that is offering a clear vision of a better future, with thousands of Green jobs, warmer homes, safer streets, thriving local economies and stronger communities.

“A huge thanks to the hard work of our candidates, activists and members that have made this happen.”

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Every day is Earth Day, but not every party is the Earth party, Greens warn



Green Party

22 April 2021

- **Jonathan Bartley: “The best thing anybody could do for the Earth is vote for a party that puts nature and climate at the centre of everything it does in this year’s local elections”**

The Green Party has urged people to use this year’s local elections to make sure Earth Day happens every day, by voting for Green councillors who can make a real difference up and down the country on 6 May.

As world leaders gather for a climate summit on Earth Day today [1], the Greens have warned that if people want to see Green policies in their regions, then they need to vote Green.

Co-leader Jonathan Bartley said:

“The simple fact is, if you want Green, then you need to vote Green. Everybody is trying to boast about their Green credentials at the moment, but there is only one party that takes protecting the environment seriously.

“The main two parties are completely failing to grasp the need for positive transformation coming out of the pandemic. It is Green councillors and activists on the ground, working with local communities up and down the country, who are picking up the slack and doing what they can to ensure a green recovery for all.”

Bartley said while the other parties talk up their Green credentials, their actions at local authority level are often far from Green.

He said:

“We always hear greenwashing from Labour and the Conservatives, but in reality one has got a £27bn road building programme while Labour offer timid half measures and continue with outdated road building even in London.

“It is only the Greens who recognise the need for a complete transformation of a transport system so everybody has access to affordable and clean public transport.

“Meanwhile, as the Greens put forward real plans for a Green industrial revolution, Labour-led councils open new coal mines and the Conservative government closes down the very body that was responsible for industrial strategy meaning it has no plan to take the CO2 out of heavy industries like steel and cement.

“It’s clear that the best thing anybody could do for the Earth is vote for a party that puts nature and the climate at the centre of everything it does in this year’s local elections.”

ENDS

Notes

1

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-56837927>

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