

Nottingham Labour Manifesto 2019

Introduction

Since we wrote our last manifesto back in 2015, so much has happened in Nottingham, in local government and across the country. We have had 4 more years of Conservative government. This means cuts to funding for services that we all rely on; including the Police, NHS, schools and benefits. We face uncertain economic times, with Brexit and ordinary people struggling to meet increasing living costs. And local authorities like Nottingham are struggling in the face of a national funding crisis, as the Conservatives continue to pass on huge funding cuts motivated by their desire to end local influence and decision making. Nottingham City Council has lost more than £100 million in government Revenue Support Grant since 2013, on top of significant increases in demand for our services, particularly adults' and children's social care. In total, we have had to save more than £268 million since 2013. These difficult times have led to challenges in delivering on our ambitious commitments for the city. But we never use this as an excuse and that's why over the last 4 years we've been able to deliver in full on 178 out of the 202 commitments we made in our last manifesto.

Because in spite of these difficult times, Nottingham Labour remains ambitious for Nottingham and for all who live and work here. We believe that funding cuts do not mean we cannot afford to be ambitious. They mean we cannot afford not to be. Nottingham needs politicians who want to make our city an even better place and who will rise to the challenges facing us, setting an ambitious vision for our city and finding innovative new ways of delivering it.

Nottingham Labour has that vision and we have a plan to deliver it. We are the only party locally that not only sets out its plans at each election, but also reports on our progress and is accountable for what we have achieved and anything we have not (www.nottinghamlabour.org.uk/manifesto-progress). The commitments in this manifesto will form the basis of our plans for Nottingham over the next 4 years if we are elected to lead the council and set the direction for our city for years after that.

Nottingham Labour's Vision for Nottingham

Nottingham Labour's manifesto is guided by our ambition for the city and our clear values. We want to help build a safer, cleaner city, that is ambitious for its residents and that we can all be proud of.

That means...

- A safer city
- A cleaner city that we all take pride in
- A diverse, vibrant and multicultural city
- A city where there is lots to do for people of all ages
- A health city where people look after themselves and make healthy choices
- A city that takes care of its residents
- A place where there is dignity in getting older and care for those who need it
- A city where there are opportunities for everyone and we're encouraged to prosper and be ambitious
- A city where people from all walks of life get on well and respect each other
- A city where everyone is able to reach their full potential

If elected to run the Council, Nottingham Labour will work the pledges in this manifesto into an action plan to help achieve our vision for Nottingham.

Our top 5 pledges if Nottingham Labour wins the Council election in May will be:

1. Build or buy 1000 Council or social homes for rent
2. Create 15,000 new jobs for Nottingham people
3. Build a new Central Library, making it the best children's library in the UK
4. Cut crime, and reduce anti-social behaviour by a quarter
5. Ensure Nottingham is the cleanest big city in England and keep neighbourhoods as clean as the city centre

20 more commitments that will change Nottingham...

1. Deliver an annual kerbside collection of unwanted bulky items for every resident, in addition to free bulky waste collections by appointment
2. Fill 50,000 potholes, replace 250 pavements and resurface 100 roads citywide
3. Provide a free book every month from birth to 5 years for 10,000 Nottingham children
4. Create a dedicated noise nuisance hotline and respond to complaints of noisy neighbours within 48 hours
5. Become the first carbon neutral city in the country, reaching this target by 2028
6. Provide settled homes as emergency accommodation for homeless people instead of Bed & Breakfast and introduce a "no first night out" policy for rough sleepers to ensure no one need sleep rough in Nottingham
7. Set up a Council owned company to deliver care services in Nottingham, with a well trained and well paid workforce, to improve the quality of care
8. Work with at least 500 young people each year at risk of becoming involved in gangs and knife crime or at risk of exploitation
9. Complete the development of and reopen Nottingham Castle as a major national heritage attraction
10. Ensure the development of 4000 new homes, including our commitment to 1000 social homes, together with aspirational eco-homes and low cost homes to rent or buy
11. Complete the transformation of the south side of the city centre, including the college, library and Broadmarsh car park, bus station and shopping centre
12. Deliver an integrated benefit, housing aid, Futures and DWP service under one roof at Nottingham City Council's head office
13. Reduce permanent exclusions by 50% and campaign against permanent exclusions and "off-rolling" to make sure every Nottingham child is in school
14. Create a wholly owned, not-for-profit company to provide debt recovery and bailiff services to the Council
15. Improve air quality in Nottingham by cutting Nitrogen Dioxide and particulate pollution by 20%
16. Reduce the number of empty shops from 15% to below 10% and return Nottingham to the top 6 retail rankings outside of London
17. Work with 5000 people to help them become physically active and improve their health
18. Increase the number of Nottingham residents with level 2 qualifications to within 3% of the national average
19. Ensure that all Nottingham children attend a school judged good or outstanding by OFSTED
20. Support 1000 more Nottingham young people into university and work with businesses to create 500 new apprenticeships

In 2015 our top 5 pledges were:

1. Ensure every child in Nottingham is taught in a school judged good or outstanding by OFSTED
2. Build 2500 new homes that Nottingham people can afford to rent or buy
3. Cut the number of victims of crime by a fifth and continue to reduce anti-social behaviour
4. Tackle fuel poverty by setting up a not-for-profit energy company to sell energy at the lowest possible price to Nottingham people
5. Guarantee a job, training place or further education place for every 18-24 year old

Progress on our top 5 pledges:

1. Almost 90% of children taught in good or outstanding schools - more than any other city in the East Midlands
2. 2293 homes built that Nottingham people can afford to rent or buy, with more underway to meet our target
3. Anti-social behaviour down by 18%, whilst crime has risen. We continue to work with the Police to cut crime
4. Robin Hood Energy set up, with more than 135,000 customers benefitting from cheaper energy with extra discounts available for Nottingham residents
5. A job, training place or further education place for every 18-24 year old

Nottingham People

Nottingham is a vibrant, exciting city we can all be proud of. It's a place where our communities are strong and diverse and stand together to celebrate successes and to take care of each other. Nottingham is also one of the country's youngest cities, making it a lively and dynamic place to be. Nottingham Labour is proud to be a part of this great city and will continue to support our reputation as a place where people can get along with each other, especially in difficult times.

We know that when times get tough, people need a helping hand and that's where an effective council makes the difference. With a Labour council, we can help those who need support and provide the right environment to assist local people to get the best out of living and working in Nottingham.

Some Nottingham people are vulnerable and need extra help. While providing the support that those in need deserve is a growing challenge for us all, it is one that Nottingham Labour is determined to meet. In the last year alone, Nottingham City Council supported over 7,300 older and disabled adults, as well as over 1,500 carers, spending more than £100 million in total.

Despite repeated promises, the Conservative government has consistently failed to address the crisis in social care funding, affecting not only our budget but the already overstretched NHS. We are fighting hard for a better deal from government, whilst also working to meet the needs of individual people in our city.

Nottingham Labour is committed to promoting dignity and independence for those who need care and support. One of the ways we plan to do this is by setting up a Council owned and managed care company to deliver these services, where carers and those needing care are treated with dignity and respect. We will also spend much of our public health budget on things like parks, leisure facilities and promoting physical activity as a way of helping to maintain people's health and independence for longer.

We're proud of our children and young people. We want to help create an environment where they are safeguarded from neglect and abuse and can grow up to reach their full potential. As our population of young people continues to grow, we want to make sure there is lots for children, young people and their families to do. For those young people and families who are in need of a high level of support, our services are delivered by hard-working professionals who are committed to working with families, where possible with a therapeutic approach that avoids more costly interventions and keeps families together.

Since the last election, there's been a significant increase in the number of children attending Good or Outstanding schools. We want to continue working with schools to make sure all Nottingham children get the best possible education, and that schools meet the needs of the most able students, but are also equipped and ready to work with children with additional needs.

Nottingham is a great place and it's the people who make it. Nottingham Labour is committed to investing in Nottingham people and encouraging everyone in Nottingham to be ambitious for themselves.

At the last election we promised and have delivered:

- Almost 90% of Nottingham children attending schools judged good or outstanding by OFSTED- up from 69% in 2015
- Provided a range of activities for children and young people across the city, including more than 560 stay and play sessions in communities across Nottingham
- Delivered over 150,000 free books to more than 5000 children as part of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library
- Connected 115,000 people to activities, services and support in their local area through AskLION
- Created 62 new special school places for children with additional needs and funded support to help children with special educational needs get on in mainstream schools
- A Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub that brings professionals together to ensure a joined up approach to keeping children safe
- Supported initiatives focussed on bringing people together, including the 'Looking After Each Other', 'Take a Seat' and 'Age Friendly Nottingham' campaigns
- Alongside the voluntary sector, secured £45million to invest in early intervention in St Ann's, Arboretum, Bulwell and Aspley through the 'Small Steps, Big Changes' programme
- Worked in partnership to retain all 18 Children's Centres across the city
- Created a graduate scheme to recognise and keep talent in the city
- Increased the number of Nottingham foster parents by 30%

Nottingham Labour will protect from cuts:

1. Frontline social workers to keep Nottingham's young people safe and adults protected
2. The Education Welfare Service and Education Improvement Board
3. Assessment and consultation for children with poor mental health
4. School uniform grants
5. Sexual health screening services across the city

Nottingham Labour will:

1. Provide a free book every month from birth to 5 years for 10,000 Nottingham children
2. Keep our Children's Centres, providing positive activities for children and their families across the city
3. Improve the dental health of Nottingham's children by campaigning to introduce fluoride into Nottingham's water supply
4. Tackle holiday hunger by supporting school holiday lunch clubs in our most deprived neighbourhoods and campaign to extend free school meals to all primary school children by 2025
5. Support parents to look after their children at home through funding early intervention and prevention programmes that keep families together

Nottingham Young People

Nottingham Labour will:

1. Support 1000 more Nottingham young people into university and work with businesses to create 500 new apprenticeships
2. Deliver a new college campus in the city centre offering a range of appropriate and inclusive courses
3. Increase the number of Nottingham residents with level 2 qualifications to within 3% of the national average
4. Ensure every Nottingham young person has the opportunity to take part in work experience and create an accessible City Council work experience scheme
5. End period poverty in Nottingham by ensuring free sanitary products are provided to young women who need them

Nottingham Students

Nottingham Labour will:

1. Make sure students have a voice in elections by increasing the number of students registered to vote by a quarter
2. Improve the standards of rented accommodation for students; ensure every licensed student home is inspected and make sure students know how to raise concerns about their property
3. Offer work placement opportunities to at least 100 Nottingham students across a range of Council departments and work with universities to create links with businesses across the city to provide placement opportunities, particularly creative industries
4. Increase the proportion of students who choose to stay in Nottingham after they graduate by a further 15%
5. Host a welcome event for international students and create further opportunities to exchange and promote different cultures

Nottingham Families

Nottingham Labour will:

1. Deliver a programme of free and cheap summer holiday activities for families and children in every neighbourhood
2. Better support parents of young children by bringing together help and parenting advice closer to home
3. Support new mums to breastfeed for longer, increasing the number of mums breastfeeding at 6 weeks by 10% and encourage businesses to go the extra mile to welcome breastfeeding mums
4. Ensure at least 75% of eligible 2 year olds access free nursery provision
5. Increase the number of Nottingham foster parents by 20% to provide a more settled home for children in care

Nottingham Older People

Nottingham Labour will:

1. Set up a Council owned company to deliver care services in Nottingham, with a well-trained and well-paid workforce, to improve the quality of care

2. Introduce a cheap peak travel offer for people who have concessionary bus passes
3. Reduce the number of older people experiencing fuel poverty by 10%
4. Further develop the Council's commitment to being a 'Dementia Friendly City' and support people with dementia and their carers
5. Reduce the number of people who feel lonely or isolated by 10%

Educating Nottingham

Nottingham Labour will:

1. Reduce permanent exclusions by 50% and campaign against permanent exclusions and "offrolling" to make sure every Nottingham child is in school
2. Ensure that all Nottingham children attend a school judged good or outstanding by OFSTED
3. Support mainstream schools to ensure that children with additional needs can progress well
4. Close the gap of GCSE attainment to within 5% of the national average
5. Increase attendance in Nottingham schools to above the national average

Healthy Nottingham

Nottingham Labour will:

1. Improve air quality in Nottingham by cutting Nitrogen Dioxide and particulate pollution by 20%
2. Work with 5000 people to help them become physically active and improve their health
3. Ensure that everyone over 40 is invited to a free health check
4. Support and promote good mental health by recruiting Community Champions and employers to the Time to Change hub and campaign to make sure that appropriate services are there when our citizens need them
5. Reduce childhood obesity by 10%

For Nottingham People, we will also...

1. Ensure that every primary school in Nottingham has an affordable breakfast club
2. Continue to be a social eating city and promote community organisations bringing people together and providing a free or low cost meal
3. Consult young people on important decisions and involve them in the Council's decision making processes
4. Train frontline staff to recognise alcohol dependency and offer advice to citizens
5. Work with schools to promote an understanding of mental wellbeing amongst staff and children
6. Create more smoke free zones in areas regularly accessed by children
7. Reduce the number of women smoking during pregnancy by a further 20%
8. Guarantee a choice of places at a local primary and secondary school for every Nottingham child
9. Campaign for the same transport discounts for 16-21s as those provided to students
10. Reduce teenage pregnancy by a further 10%

Living in Nottingham

There are many things about Nottingham that make it a great place to live, work, learn and have fun. We have the best public transport in the UK outside of London, many affordable and good quality homes and a wealth of green and beautiful parks and open spaces enjoyed by thousands of Nottingham residents. Over the next 4 years, Nottingham Labour wants to help make our city an ever better place to live.

We've got some ambitious projects underway to help us achieve that. For example, we've secured funding and started work on transforming Nottingham Castle into a heritage attraction of national importance; and we're about to get to work on a new Central Library which, when complete, will be the best children's library in the UK. Our ambitious plans for the castle, library and south side of the city centre will put Nottingham on the map as a destination for retail, leisure and our rebellious history. All this provides first class facilities for Nottingham people and boosts our economy through visitors and tourists coming to our city.

We know the cost of living can be tough for many local people so we have tried to be innovative with our ideas, setting up the country's first not-for-profit energy company, Robin Hood Energy, taking on the big 6 energy companies and helping drive down average energy prices in the East Midlands. Robin Hood Energy now serves more than 135,000 customers and offers a green tariff as well as discounts for Nottingham residents.

And while the Conservative government presides over a housing crisis, in the last four years Nottingham Labour has also delivered 2500 affordable homes, including new council homes in St Ann's, Bulwell, Aspley and many more. Nottingham Labour understands the need to invest in our communities and we've delivered a new library at Strelley Court as well as a joint service centre in Sneinton.

In the next 4 years, we'll build or buy 1000 new council or social homes, as well as using the powers we have to drive up standards in the private rented sector. We also want to work with communities to deliver new community libraries in neighbourhoods like Clifton and Sherwood. And we will invest in 100 more parks, making sure there are places to play and be outdoors in every neighbourhood. We're also continuing to invest in roads, cycling infrastructure and public transport and we want to make it easier to use Nottingham's network of buses and trams, rolling out contactless payments and looking to build partnerships with Derby.

Nottingham Labour believes we have a responsibility to safeguard our city for future generations. That's why we've included a green section in our manifesto, reflecting our commitment to reduce waste and pollution and encourage recycling and responsible behaviours. We're proud of Nottingham and we want to keep making our city an even better, more exciting place to live.

At the last election we promised and have delivered:

- Built 2293 homes built that Nottingham people can afford to rent or buy, with more underway to meet our target
- The first municipally owned not-for-profit energy company, Robin Hood Energy, providing low cost energy to 135,000 customers

- Increased the number of people walking, cycling or taking public transport to work by 11%
- Secured Heritage Lottery Funding for Highfields Park and completed a major £4.8 million investment programme of the park and its facilities
- Introduced a Selective Licensing Scheme, meaning that 90% of private rented homes in the city are now regulated and standards are on the up
- Introduced energy efficiency measures to more council homes, including solar panels to a further 1366 homes and secured over £4.8million to fund further improvements
- Driven tenant satisfaction with Nottingham City Homes to its highest ever, with NCH recognised as Landlord of the Year
- Invested over £1.2million in 23 play areas across the city, including the Forest Rec, Harvey Hadden, Peggy's Park, Stockhill Park, Sutton Passey and Victoria Park
- Created an integrated 'oyster' style transport ticket, the Robin Hood Card, which is now used by more than 50,000 people
- 93% of households across the city served with at least an hourly bus service to the city centre

Nottingham Labour will protect from cuts:

1. Free bulky waste collections for all Nottingham residents
2. Support for a diverse range of free and low cost community and cultural events
3. A comprehensive public transport network
4. Our leisure centres and concessionary offers
5. A network of community libraries

Clean Nottingham

Nottingham Labour will:

1. Ensure Nottingham is the cleanest big city in England and keep neighbourhoods as clean as the city centre
2. Deliver an annual kerbside collection of unwanted bulky items for every resident, in addition to free bulky waste collections by appointment
3. Replace every litter bin in the city centre and roll out a programme of replacements in neighbourhoods
4. Manage public spaces, pavements and gullies to minimise weeds and keep Nottingham tidy
5. Extend the garden waste collection service to include November

Green Nottingham

Nottingham Labour will:

1. Become the first carbon neutral city in the country, reaching this target by 2028
2. Double the number of Nottingham residents using Robin Hood Energy and continue to provide extra discounts for those who live in the city
3. Ensure that all planning and development decisions take account of environmental and sustainability considerations and ensure Nottingham is a "bee-friendly" city with suitable habitats in every neighbourhood
4. Plant at least 10,000 trees across the city
5. Reduce plastic use by providing water bottle refill stations in the city centre and make the Council single-use plastic free

Housing in Nottingham

Nottingham Labour will:

1. Build or buy 1000 council or social homes for rent
2. Ensure the development of 4000 new homes, including our commitment to 1000 social homes, together with aspirational ecohomes and low cost homes to rent or buy
3. Continue transforming the land alongside the River Trent into a neighbourhood of choice, working with Blueprint to build sustainable new homes
4. Provide settled homes as emergency accommodation for homeless people instead of Bed & Breakfast and introduce a “no first night out” policy for rough sleepers to ensure no one need sleep rough in Nottingham
5. Use our landlord licensing schemes and all other powers to improve the overall standards of private rented accommodation in Nottingham and tackle rogue landlords

Transport in Nottingham

Nottingham Labour will:

1. Fill 50,000 potholes, replace 250 pavements and resurface 100 roads citywide
2. Introduce contactless payments for bus and tram fares and city centre parking
3. Help Nottingham people access jobs by promoting and building tram extensions south of Clifton and from Chilwell park-and-ride to the proposed new HS2 Station at Toton and explore the feasibility of further major tram extensions through Netherfield to Gedling Colliery and Gamston and west of the city to Kimberley
4. Further develop Nottingham’s cycle network by upgrading existing cycle routes to encourage more leisure and commuter cycling
5. Increase the frequency of NCT weekend night bus services from hourly to half hourly at peak times

Enjoying Nottingham

Nottingham Labour will:

1. Build a new Central Library, making it the best children’s library in the UK
2. Complete the development of and reopen Nottingham Castle as a major national heritage attraction
3. Host international events for Nottingham residents and visitors that showcase Nottingham’s assets
4. Maintain and improve 100 play areas across the city
5. Work with local people and community organisations to expand and protect Nottingham’s Green Flag winning parks and play areas

To make living in Nottingham even better we will also...

1. Provide a network of community based libraries to complement Central Library provision and reflect the communities they serve, including new community libraries in Sherwood and Clifton
2. Continue to campaign for the electrification of the Midland Mainline
3. Complete the World War 1 Centenary Nottingham Roll of Honour and bid for funding to restore and improve Victoria Embankment Memorial Gardens
4. Work with the Environment Agency to protect 1000 more homes from the risk of flooding

5. Encourage purpose built student accommodation in places where it reduces pressure on family housing
6. Ensure that Nottingham's Hackney carriage fleet is ultra-low emissions, reduce the maximum age of taxis from 15 to 12 years and exclude dirty diesel taxis from the city centre
7. Keep Nottingham moving with a comprehensive road and pavement gritting programme
8. Bring at least 100 long term empty homes back into use
9. Use the 'Robin Hood' card as the basis for developing an integrated Derby/ Nottingham Metro public transport service
10. Encourage the creation of lifetime homes wherever possible, ensuring that new homes have due regard for accessibility and space standards

Growing Nottingham

Nottingham Labour wants to develop a thriving local economy where local businesses grow and prosper, money is spent in the local economy and there are jobs and careers available for local people.

We have a strong track record of working to grow Nottingham. Nottingham is now the fastest growing city for business start-ups and we've seen more inward investment than any other city in the East Midlands.

A number of major regeneration projects have both started and completed in the last four years and it's an exciting time for the city. The eyesore that was the Broadmarsh car park has now been demolished and work is underway to build a new car park, bus station and Central Library on the site, transforming the south of the city centre. Work is underway alongside Intu to redevelop the Broadmarsh shopping centre to create a new retail and leisure experience and increase footfall along routes towards the south of the city centre. New grade A office space is being built, and we've expanded outer city employment sites such as Glaisdale Industrial Estate, making way for business growth and creating employment opportunities in our neighbourhoods. Over the past 4 years, the Nottingham Jobs Fund has supported 8000 people into work and we have been able to guarantee a job, training or further education place for every 18-24 year old who wants one.

Unemployment is at its lowest level and the number of people claiming out of work benefits is down. As we work to grow Nottingham, we want to make sure that there are jobs and opportunities available for those who want them.

Nottingham Labour recognises the huge contribution that small and medium sized businesses make to our economy. There are over 10,000 SMEs in the city, employing 70% of people working in the private sector. We are committed to working with SMEs to create an environment where they can grow and prosper.

We want to create an attractive and vibrant city that has all the services people need, recognising the changing uses of the city centre and embracing the opportunities this presents. We'll promote a thriving economy where businesses invest and prosper and our city and neighbourhoods are at their best. And this will ensure that Nottingham people benefit from more jobs and increased prosperity.

At the last election we promised and have delivered:

- Supported 8000 people into work through the Nottingham Jobs Fund
- Supported Nottingham College to secure £58 million for a new City College Hub on the Broadmarsh East site, with construction underway
- Redeveloped Sneinton Market and Dakeyne Street providing accommodation for creative companies and businesses
- Supported around 1000 businesses through the Growth Hub and other business support schemes
- Secured thousands of jobs in Nottingham through retaining existing investors and attracting new ones
- Revitalised Bulwell and Clifton town centres through transport investment and a targeted action plan

- Established a new creative industries business hub and a centre of excellence for environmental technology
- Attracted foreign direct investment into the city, including 8 international projects from China and India
- Provided loans of over £1.2 million to 49 creative and digital businesses through the Midlands Engine Investment Fund
- Established Nottingham as one of the best UK cities for business start-ups

Nottingham Labour will protect from cuts:

1. Funding for the Nottingham Jobs Hub
2. Support to help businesses grow and prosper
3. Support to ensure our neighbourhood centres thrive
4. Jobs Fairs across the city
5. The Nottingham Jobs Fund

Developing Nottingham City Centre

Nottingham Labour will:

1. Complete the transformation of the south side of the city centre, including the college, library and Broadmarsh car park, bus station and shopping centre
2. Reduce the number of empty shops from 15% to below 10% and return Nottingham to the top 6 retail rankings outside of London
3. Start the redevelopment of Broadmarsh west, including the land to the west of Carrington Street, the Castle College site and the land around the Trip to Jerusalem with a new square, public open space and appropriate development to ensure the castle is visible and showcased as an important asset of the city
4. Create a new vision for the city centre, including increasing the leisure and visitor offer
5. Work to secure government funding for a high quality conference centre in Nottingham

Developing Nottingham's Neighbourhoods

Nottingham Labour will:

1. Support the retail offer on Nottingham's arterial routes and in neighbourhoods, reducing empty shops by 15%
2. Support independent local businesses with start-up initiatives on neighbourhood markets, working with 100 new stall holders and introducing specialist food and flower markets
3. Bring 20 vacant sites back into use to provide employment opportunities for local people
4. Encourage and facilitate the development of low cost supermarkets where they are wanted, such as on the Beechdale Baths site
5. Make sure that any new housing developments, such as the one proposed in Clifton, are fully served with jobs, shops and services for local people

Working Nottingham

Nottingham Labour will:

1. Create 15,000 new jobs for Nottingham people
2. Provide a one-stop jobs and training centre at Loxley House alongside other council services
3. Help 500 people who are over 50 into work or training
4. Continue to guarantee a job, training or further education place for all 18-24 year olds

5. Complete Nottingham Science Park, Unity Square, Players Site, Energy Park and People's Hall and progress the Island Site and Boots to provide employment opportunities for Nottingham people

Nottingham Businesses

Nottingham Labour will:

1. Secure more inward investment than any other city in the East Midlands
2. Ensure the development of at least 500,000 square feet of Grade A office space to encourage inward investment in the city
3. Ensure all small to medium sized businesses have access to support through the Nottingham Growth Hub to help businesses grow the value of jobs on offer and work directly with 500 SMEs run by under represented groups
4. Continue to promote science, technology and creative industries as Nottingham's key industrial growth sectors
5. Work with mass job sectors such as retail and construction to connect local people to job opportunities and encourage them to pay at least the real living wage

To grow Nottingham we will also...

1. Support plans to double passenger and freight traffic at East Midlands Airport and campaign for a dual carriageway and passenger rail link to the Airport, Donington Park and associated employment sites
2. Campaign strongly for HS2 to be built, a station at Toton and the redevelopment of land around the station to create jobs and promote growth
3. Improve the condition of Nottingham's heritage buildings through the creation of an arms length management company
4. Help create a positive environment for social enterprises and support the development of 10 new cooperative businesses
5. Continue to develop Nottingham and Derby's Metro Strategy, building on already strong partnership working with Gedling and Derby and including other neighbourhood authorities
6. Fight to ensure that UK government funding replaces current EU funding for economic development activity in Nottingham
7. Secure a 'Local Industrial Strategy Deal' with government to support our key sectors and grow businesses
8. Create a city 'Growth and Innovation Partnership' with D2N2 Growth Hub, Universities and the private sector to support businesses to grow and employ Nottingham residents
9. Develop Nottingham's Creative Quarter and creative industries into a regionally significant economic sector
10. Support local businesses by providing a 364 day a year commercial waste collection service

Respect for Nottingham

Nottingham Labour remains committed to reducing crime and anti-social behaviour and encouraging different communities to live together and get on well. At the last election, we pledged to cut crime and the number of victims of crime by a fifth. Although both our Community Protection Officers and the Police have worked hard, we haven't been able to achieve this target.

This is in part due to a change in the way crimes are recorded, but also because of significant cuts in police budgets passed on by the Conservatives. Nottinghamshire Police have lost £54m in funding since 2010 and there are now 500 fewer officers on Nottingham's streets. In addition, at the last election we included a pledge to ensure that the city continues to be served by a single police division. Unfortunately, despite strong evidence to support this model, the then Chief Constable decided to scrap the city division. Crime increased as a result. But now under the leadership of a new Chief Constable that change has effectively been reversed and we've seen a renewed commitment to driving down crime and to increasing the numbers of police on our streets.

Nottingham Labour wants to work with the Police to achieve our mutual vision of a safer Nottingham and believe now we are far better placed than 4 years ago to do just that. Over the last 4 years, anti-social behaviour has been cut by 18%. Community Protection Officers have made an important contribution to achieving this, so we're repeating our commitment to maintain 100 CPOs to work across all areas of the city, as well as to reducing anti-social behaviour by a further quarter. We also want to make it easier for residents to report anti-social behaviour where they live and make sure we're able to respond quickly and efficiently. One of the great things about Nottingham is our diversity.

Nottingham is one of the most diverse cities in the UK and this is a huge part of what makes us a unique and strong community. Our latest citizens survey showed that 90% of people believe that different communities get on well together in Nottingham. Over the next 4 years we want to increase this further, with more people enjoying the benefits of living in Nottingham. We also want to make it easier for local people who know and are invested in their communities to contribute to making our neighbourhoods better places to live.

At the last election we promised and have delivered:

- 100 Community Protection Officers working across all wards of the city
- Reduced anti-social behaviour by 18%
- The number of repeat victims of domestic violence down by more than a third
- Increased reporting of hate crime by 86%
- Lobbied the police to maintain and then reintroduce city-focussed policing
- Ensured Nottingham City Homes take a tough line on tenants involved in drug dealing, knife and gun crime and other serious offences
- Worked with Police to deliver "Operation Graduate", providing advice and promoting crime prevention amongst students every October
- Protected Environmental Health Officers from cuts, making sure Nottingham's restaurants are properly regulated and inspected
- Given advice to landlords of more than 7000 private rented homes on improving the security of their homes and taken enforcement action against those who didn't follow that advice

- Presented 150 students with certificates at their own awards ceremony, recognising their contribution to voluntary projects across the city

Protect from cuts:

Nottingham Labour will:

1. 100 Community Protection Officers, working in every ward in the city
2. Teams that clean up graffiti and dog fouling within 48 hours of reporting
3. Teams dealing with anti-social behaviour and noise nuisance
4. A network of domestic and sexual violence services
5. Our 24 hour staffed CCTV control room

Tackling Crime

Nottingham Labour will:

1. Cut crime, and reduce anti-social behaviour by a quarter
2. Work with at least 500 young people each year at risk of becoming involved in gangs and knife crime or at risk of exploitation
3. Campaign to increase the number of Police Officers and PCSOs on Nottingham's streets
4. Work in partnership with the British Transport Police to ensure safety of our public transport network and to tackle related crime
5. Create an annual 'Respect Plan' for each area of the city, detailing what the council and its partners will do in your area to improve cleanliness, crime and tackle anti-social behaviour

Nottingham Labour will:

1. Create a dedicated noise nuisance hotline and respond to complaints of noisy neighbours within 48 hours
2. Reduce fly-tipping by 10% as well as investigating and fining more fly-tippers
3. Create Rapid Response teams who can be easily contacted to deal with anti-social behaviour and community issues
4. Use Public Space Protection Orders to tackle anti-social behaviour in neighbourhoods that need it
5. Regularly bring local people and local groups together to improve their neighbourhoods

Nottingham Communities

1. Increase the number of people who feel there is a strong sense of community where they live by 10%
2. Host an extensive programme of community events and activities to bring people together in every neighbourhood, reflecting and celebrating our diversity
3. Work with businesses to pool corporate social responsibility money to invest strategically in Nottingham's communities alongside the voluntary sector
4. In partnership with the voluntary sector, ensure that vulnerable people have access to legal advice
5. Support new initiatives that celebrate and champion volunteers, community activity and faith groups

To better respect Nottingham we will also...

1. Ensure voluntary and community organisations are central to the way we consult citizens
2. Provide a network of community centres where local people can come together
3. Train staff and councillors in domestic abuse awareness so that they can more easily spot the signs and signpost to advice and support
4. Work with the Nottingham BID to maintain Nottingham's Purple Flag status, benchmarking Nottingham as a safe and vibrant place to enjoy a night out
5. Create a Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy, working with partners including the Police, transport providers and venues to address the safety of women and girls in their homes and their communities
6. Work with partners to be a city that welcomes those in need of refuge or shelter
7. Develop a strategy with partners to address hate crime and reduce repeat hate crime by 10%
8. Continue to support the 'Nottingham Together' programme, bringing communities together and creating good neighbours
9. Work with the Police to deliver and expand "Operation Graduate", helping students keep their homes and property safe
10. Implement the city centre PSPO to create a safer, cleaner and more enjoyable environment to visit

Serving Nottingham Better

Nottingham Labour want to make sure that local people can access the best possible services from Nottingham City Council and from their councillors. Nottingham Labour councillors are the only local representatives with a track record of being on the side of local people and standing up to protect services and spending for Nottingham.

By contrast, Conservatives nationally have led 8 years of ideologically driven funding cuts to councils, which are putting local services at risk and failing to recognise changing demographics or show ambition for cities like Nottingham. Since 2013/14, Nottingham has lost more than £100 million in government Revenue Support Grant funding. Local Conservatives have repeatedly failed to stand up against these cuts.

But as this manifesto demonstrates, Nottingham Labour is still ambitious for our city. We don't see these cuts as an excuse not to serve Nottingham even better. Instead, we want to use our resources wisely to make sure Nottingham people are able to access the services they want and need quickly and efficiently. Over the past 4 years, Nottingham Labour has driven the council to use its existing resources commercially. In fact, a recent peer review of Nottingham recognised the council as ambitious, with an impressive track record of enterprise. Thinking commercially provides us with opportunities to generate income which we are able to invest back into providing public services.

Over the past 4 years, Nottingham City Council has generated £20 million of income through commercial activity. Although this doesn't meet the gap created by government cuts and changing demographics, it goes some way to mitigate it.

Over the coming years, we'll use new technology to make sure you can report problems easily and that they are resolved the first time you contact us. We want to make our contact centres a one-stop shop for a range of services that local people want and ensure that when you need it, advice on issues such as benefits and debt is available in your community.

Nottingham Labour recognises that the City Council has a role to play in leading by example on equalities. That's why we're including an equalities section in this manifesto for the first time. Over the next 4 years, we want to see Nottingham's diversity reflected more across the council's workforce, as well as in positions of leadership both within the council and across the city.

Over the next 4 years, Labour councillors will continue to campaign for fairer funding for local government, as well as for a Labour government that believes in investing in our communities for the good of the many, not the few. In the meantime we will do the very best we can for Nottingham with the resources we have available to us.

Serving Nottingham Better

Nottingham Labour promised and has delivered:

- £7 million extra income to protect frontline services generated by using land and commercial resources
- 70p of every pound spent by the City Council spent with Nottingham businesses
- Created 3 more joint service centres – in Sneinton, Hyson Green and Strelley

- Established the Nottingham Business Charter, ensuring a total of more than £526million investment in the local economy
- Created or preserved 1200 local jobs through purchasing and commissioning
- Provided debt and welfare advice to 15,000 people each year, both directly and through partnerships with the voluntary sector
- Raised more than £20 million in income from commercial activities to reinvest into public services
- Provided almost 250 young people with apprenticeships at the City Council and supported two thirds of them into permanent jobs
- Supported the Nottingham Credit Union to provide ethical and sustainable finance and borrowing to more Nottingham people
- Worked in partnership with other local authorities to make services more efficient and cost effective

Protect from cuts:

1. Funding for community based benefit and debt advice
2. 100 apprenticeships at the City Council
3. Access to council services- online, in person or over the phone
4. Annual residents' surveys, making sure council decisions are evidence based
5. A network of area committees, area based grant funding and local decision making on how money is spent in your neighbourhood

For Council Services Nottingham Labour will...

1. Create a wholly owned, not-for-profit company to provide debt recovery and bailiff services to the Council
2. Deliver Council security services in-house and explore ways to provide in-house security to events, buildings and community premises
3. Deliver an integrated benefit, housing aid, Futures and DWP service under one roof at Nottingham City Council's head office
4. Make it easier to contact the Council, helping you report problems online wherever possible and aiming to solve your problem the first time you contact us
5. Work with the voluntary sector to ensure that welfare rights advice is available in all areas of the city

For Council Resources Nottingham Labour will...

1. Work with businesses, the public and the voluntary sector to write and implement a vision for Nottingham to 2050, built on the dreams and aspirations of local people
2. Create an independent trust to manage and run community buildings
3. Become the country's most commercial council, bringing in at least £4 million more from commercial activities to support services local people rely on
4. Generate £3 million more income by rationalising and consolidating the Council's land holdings and reinvesting to bring in additional income
5. Allow neighbourhoods to invest in and run their own local community hubs and assets through Community Asset Trusts

Equalities

1. Make sure that at least half of our candidates, half of the council's executive and one of the Leader or Deputy Leader are women, and work to ensure that the Executive Board reflects the BAME diversity of the city as a whole
2. Take steps to eradicate the gender and

BAME pay gap and work with Council owned companies to close theirs 3. Take positive action to ensure that the make up of the Council's workforce at all levels better reflects Nottingham's diverse communities 4. Continue to be a Stonewall top 100 employer 5. Ensure that council decisions, our services and developments take account of disability and that public spaces and buildings are easy to access

To serve Nottingham better we will also...

1. Hold "fix-it" days in areas across the city, helping local people re-use and recycle household items
2. Ensure that meaningful consultation with a diverse range of groups forms the basis of decisions made by the council
3. Shortlist a proportionate amount of BAME candidates for every City Council vacancy, relative to the number of applications received
4. Help people on low incomes to budget and manage their finances better and promote Nottingham's Credit Union as an ethical alternative bank
5. Host an annual "open doors" event where visitors are invited into public buildings across the city
6. Ensure Nottingham City Council jobs pay at least the real living wage and wherever possible commission services from organisations that do that same
7. Work in partnership to create and support a network for women in Nottingham
8. Use the Council's purchasing power to support local jobs, apprenticeships and businesses
9. Develop a "you said, we did" programme for neighbourhood working through area committees
10. Provide digital access points and support to use them in Nottingham's libraries and council offices

Labour's Pledge to you

Labour councillors and candidates care passionately about Nottingham. We're standing for election because we want to be a part of making the communities we live in better places. We live in Nottingham and use local services. We come from the local community and want to make sure the Council delivers the best for people just like you.

Nottingham Labour believes that wherever you live in the city, your Labour councillor should provide you with an excellent level of service. You should be represented by someone who will listen to you, be an advocate for you and champion your local area. Nottingham Labour is the only party that can make this pledge. That's why we will make every effort to be available to local residents, at surgeries, on the phone and via email.

Nottingham Labour councillors want local voices to lead local decision making. Councillors do this as part of their role as active members of their communities, hearing things directly from local people and from their own experiences of living in the city. Labour councillors work hard to be advocates for local people.

Residents contact us about issues ranging from nuisance parking to homelessness, and from potholes to housing repairs. Although we can't promise we'll always solve your problem, we will try and will always support you to get a response and a resolution. Nottingham Labour councillors have a track record of being on the side of local people.

Over the last 4 years, our record includes:

- Completed over 20,000 pieces of casework on a range of issues for local people
- Held at least fortnightly surgeries across the city
- Represented the Council on a range of committees from Planning to Corporate Parenting
- Worked in partnership with local community groups, residents associations and the police to build consensus on local issues
- Held a ward walk at least every month in each ward of the city
- Funded local events including Christmas light switch ons, firework displays, St George's Day events and summer events
- Campaigned against government cuts to council funding, standing up for Nottingham
- Spoken to more than 100,000 Nottingham people on the doorstep, not just in election time but all year round
- Campaigned for a Labour government in the best interests of Nottingham
- Delivered at least 2 newspapers every year, making sure you can stay up to date with what we've been doing on the council

Once elected, all Labour councillors will:

1. Have an advertised contact number and deal promptly and courteously with residents
2. Ensure your problems are tackled quickly and efficiently through the Council's casework system
3. Hold regular advice surgeries every month
4. Do ward walks at least once a month so we can spot problems and listen to your views and concerns
5. Deliver at least 2 newsletters per year in each Labour ward about what Labour councillors have been doing both locally and across the city

6. Join local action and residents groups and work to make them a success
7. Be present, or represented, at community events and meetings that local people invite us to attend
8. Attend the committees we are appointed to and be a constructive and well-briefed member of that body, and publish attendance levels
9. Ask for your views by phone, on the doorstep and in surveys so you can express your opinion on issues that matter in your area
10. Use our influence in the Labour party and our contacts in government to stand up for Nottingham