



#BuildBackBetter

July 2020

Build Back Better in Brighton and Hove

We face critical times here in the city (and further afield) and also enormous opportunities. We have learnt through this global pandemic how much we can do for ourselves to help our families, our neighbours and others, and how desperately we need good public services. We understand how important it is to value our healthcare and other key workers, how it is possible to bring homeless people off the street and support those facing hardship. We know how enjoyable it is to have cleaner air, quieter streets, to walk in green spaces and to hear the birds sing.

As we start to recover (we hope) from this health emergency, we have the chance to build on what we have learnt to create a safer, fairer, cleaner, greener and more sustainable city; a place in which everyone can make a living and enjoy life without facing discrimination; a place where people can afford to find a home, that celebrates the importance of nature and culture and understands the need to tackle the ever-worsening climate crisis.

But as we emerge from this initial emergency, we face what may well become something even more challenging. The city is likely to be facing unprecedented difficulties around the economy, health, wellbeing and the environment. We need to create a radical new vision of how we want to live together, addressing the deepening climate emergency, ensuring that the economic recovery is a green recovery and how we can continue to combat racial injustice and other forms of inequality.

In the City we have vibrant and diverse neighbourhoods and strong local community and voluntary networks, but they need support. We also have a majority of progressive political councillors on Brighton and Hove Council, and their role will be crucial if such changes are to be achieved and maintained. We welcome how they have overcome many of their political differences in order to work together, making our city a better place in which to live.

We believe that the Council should begin a city-wide debate based loosely on the 'Building Back Better' Compass programme so that we can all contribute our ideas and initiatives. It's a programme developed by everyone for everyone. It will enable us to build towards a better, safer and more sustainable life in our city.

Brighton and Hove Compass Group

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