

**WEST** | MAYORAL  
OF ENGLAND | COMBINED  
AUTHORITY

# Mayoral Election

Thursday 1 May 2025

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Voting and candidate  
information



[westofengland-ca.gov.uk/election](https://westofengland-ca.gov.uk/election)



# West of England Combined Authority Mayoral election

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On Thursday 1 May 2025 residents in Bath and North East Somerset, Bristol and South Gloucestershire will have the opportunity to vote for the person they want to be the next West of England Combined Authority Mayor.

The Mayor leads the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority and its work to deliver sustainable and inclusive economic growth through the development of business support, skills, housing and transport across the region.

## About this booklet

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This booklet must be sent to you by law\*. It includes:

- information about the election
- an election address from each of the candidates
- information on how to fill in your ballot paper
- frequently asked questions

### **Stephen Peacock**

Combined Authority Returning Officer

\* By law, one booklet must be distributed to each person entitled to vote at the election.

# The Mayoral Candidates

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**There are six candidates standing as the West of England Combined Authority Mayor.**

Candidates are listed in alphabetical order below. This is the order in which they will appear on the ballot paper.

**Banks, Arron Fraser Andrew**  
Reform UK

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**Godwin Teige, Helen Jayne**  
Labour Party

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**Henman, Oliver**  
Liberal Democrats

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**Page, Mary Elizabeth**  
Green Party

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**Scott, Ian Keith Mark**  
Independent

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**Smith, Stephen James**  
The Conservative Party Candidate

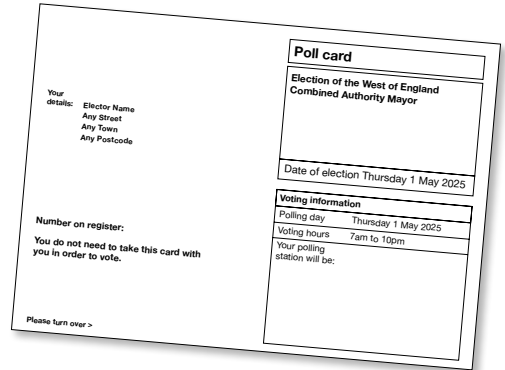
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# Voting information

Every registered eligible elector will be sent a poll card/letter explaining when, where and how to vote.


For details of your polling station you can also contact your local council:




## Bath & North East Somerset

 01225 477 333

## Bristol

 01179 223 400

## South Gloucestershire

 01454 863 030



# How to cast your vote

There are three ways to vote:



**In person** – at the polling station listed on your poll card/letter. You must show photo ID at the polling station before you can be given a ballot paper.



**By post** – you can apply for a postal vote at [www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote](http://www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote)  
Deadlines apply (see page 7).



**By proxy** – where someone can vote on your behalf either at your polling station or by post. You can apply for a proxy vote at [www.gov.uk/apply-proxy-vote](http://www.gov.uk/apply-proxy-vote)  
Deadlines apply (see page 7).



**You must be on the electoral register before you are able to vote in elections.**

# Voter ID

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You will need to show your photo ID when voting in person on Thursday 1 May.

A list of accepted forms of photo ID is available at



**[www.electoralcommission.org.uk/  
voting-and-elections/voter-id/  
accepted-forms-photo-id](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voting-and-elections/voter-id/accepted-forms-photo-id)**

You only need one form of photo ID. It needs to be the original version, and not a photocopy.



If you do not have a type of photo ID that allows you to vote, you can apply for a free voter authority certificate at **[www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate](http://www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate)**



The deadline to apply for free voter ID for this election is **Wednesday 23 April at 5pm.**

# The voting system

This election uses the 'first past the post' voting system.

You will have one vote and the candidate with the highest number of votes is elected.

If you put more than one cross on the ballot paper your vote will not be counted.

**Election of the West of England Combined Authority Mayor**

Vote for only one candidate by putting a cross [X] in the box next to your choice.

SURNAME, Firstname Address Party name/independent	Party logo	<input type="checkbox"/>
SURNAME, Firstname Address Party name/independent	Party logo	<input type="checkbox"/>
SURNAME, Firstname Address Party name/independent	Party logo	<input type="checkbox"/>
SURNAME, Firstname Address Party name/independent	Party logo	<input type="checkbox"/>
SURNAME, Firstname Address Party name/independent	Party logo	<input type="checkbox"/>
SURNAME, Firstname Address Party name/independent	Party logo	<input type="checkbox"/>



Once the counting of votes has been completed, results will be available at [westofengland-ca.gov.uk/election](https://westofengland-ca.gov.uk/election)

## Key dates



- **From end of March:**  
Poll cards/letters arrive
- **Friday 11 April, 11:59pm:**  
Deadline for registering to vote
- **Monday 14 April, 5pm:** Deadline for applying for a postal vote or changing an existing postal vote or proxy vote
- **Wednesday 23 April, 5pm:**  
Deadline for applying for a proxy vote
- **Thursday 1 May: Election Day**  
Voting hours 7am–10pm

# Frequently asked questions

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## **What does the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority and its Mayor do?**

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The Combined Authority Mayor leads the authority and works to improve the lives of the people who live, work and travel in the West of England. This involves bringing partners together to improve transport, helping residents access new skills, training, and job opportunities, supporting local businesses and attracting new ones to set up in the region, protecting the environment and addressing the region's housing, planning and infrastructure needs.

## **How does the Combined Authority Mayor work with local councils?**

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The Combined Authority Mayor works together with the leaders of Bath & North East Somerset Council, Bristol City Council and South Gloucestershire Council to make decisions to benefit the wider region.

## **Why has every voter in my household been sent a booklet?**

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The law says that every registered voter must be sent their own copy, so they get a chance to see who the candidates are.



## **I have lost my poll card/letter, can I get another one?**

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If you are on the electoral register, you don't need a poll card/letter to vote. The poll card/letter is just to inform you that there is an election and explains where your polling station is. You can go to your polling station with your photo ID to cast your vote.

## **The candidates**

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**The following pages contain addresses from the candidates.**

The content of these addresses is the responsibility of the candidates themselves. The views expressed are theirs and cannot be attributed to the Combined Authority Returning Officer, Bath & North East Somerset Council, Bristol City Council, South Gloucestershire Council or the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority.

The order in which the candidate addresses appear in this booklet has been determined by the drawing of lots by the Combined Authority Returning Officer, in accordance with The Combined Authorities (Mayoral Elections) Order 2017.

**Speaking Truth to Power!**

**IAN SCOTT**

Standing up for Your Rights as a Local Independent Candidate!

**GIVE US OUR MONEY BACK!**

**WE** need to Bridge the Gap again and work with North Somerset where the only Airport and Royal Portbury Docks are economic generators for the **West of England**. The Gateway to the World. The **West of England** is a Net Contributor to the British Economy but is not in the first tranche of Integrated Funding?  
Like West Yorkshire is!

West Yorkshire or **West of England**?

National Political Party or Local Independent? You have the Power!

**Being Old is not a Crime!**      **Experience is a Good Thing!**

### **MY EXPERIENCE**

Grew up in St Anne's Park Bristol – Lived in Filton since 1988 – Home to the Aerospace Industry, MOD and the Post Office  
Illustrating **WE** need International - National and Local Investment

### **Public Service & Political Activist for over 40 years**

Current South Gloucestershire Councillor - 10 years  
Chaired South Gloucestershire Council Health Scrutiny  
Filton Councillor - 15 years  
School Governor - 12 years - Primary and Secondary  
West of England - European Structure Investment Fund Member - 3 years  
Avon Fire Authority Member - 4 years  
Bristol University Court Member - 5 years  
GFA Football Association Committee Member - 2 years  
Southwest Councils - BTEC Local Governance Level 4 – Assessor

Promoted by Ian Scott Independent Candidate 55 Charborough Road Filton South Gloucestershire BS347QZ

**IAN SCOTT**

**- Standing up for Your Rights as an Independent – I will Speak Truth to Power and Support:**

### **Better Health Services**

New Frenchay Community Hospital and Urgent Treatment Centre.

### **Improved Buses and Transport**

Cheaper Bus Fares and Better Bus Routes and Train Services.  
New Local Train Stations - like St Anne's Park and Filton North.  
More Respect for Residents and Car Users in Consultations.

### **Council House Waiting Lists Are Too Long!**

More Council and Affordable Homes. Better Protection for Renters.

### **Skills Training that Supports New Industry jobs and Housing**

Seek Further International, European and National investment to modernise industry like Filton's Aerospace Industry and the jobs of the future in Green Energy and New Technology.

**GIVE US OUR MONEY BACK!**

We Pay too much of our Tax to National Government who need to give it back to us to Fund Local Services.

**Educated Locally** at St Anne's Park, St George and Bristol Colleges, TUC and the Bristol Business School (now UWE).

### **Over 40 Years Work Experience**

Post Office 19 years + (From the Age of 16)  
South Gloucestershire Council and Bristol Council 11 years +  
Education Trade Union Regional Officer 14 years +

Email: [ianmark\\_scott@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:ianmark_scott@blueyonder.co.uk)

Promoted by Ian Scott Independent Candidate 55 Charborough Road Filton South Gloucestershire BS347QZ

WEST OF ENGLAND MAYORAL ELECTION  
THURSDAY 1ST MAY

**STEVE SMITH**

FOR WEST OF ENGLAND MAYOR

*A common sense  
plan for our region*

LET'S GET OUR REGION  
MOVING (AT LAST!), WITH  
A MAYOR WHO WILL:

- ✓ End the war on the motorist
- ✓ Sort out our bus services
- ✓ Expand railway services
- ✓ Champion the Green Belt
- ✓ Grow our region's economy and jobs

## Steve Smith's practical business plan

to deliver for the WHOLE of  
the West of England

- ✓ **END THE WAR ON THE MOTORIST**  
stopping congestion-creating schemes like the A4 bus lane between Bath and Bristol.
- ✓ **SORT OUT OUR BUS SERVICES**  
expanding services, especially in rural areas, and keeping fares down.
- ✓ **EXPAND THE RAILWAY NETWORK**  
opening five new stations in two years and progressing another three.
- ✓ **CHAMPION THE GREEN BELT**  
by promoting a strong regional "brownfield first" policy and the investment to do it.
- ✓ **BACK ECONOMIC AND JOB GROWTH**  
supporting business and investment - like expanding the Rec in Bath.
- ✓ **PROMOTE CITY AND TOWN REGENERATION**  
get on with key regeneration schemes like Broadmead.

**VOTE FOR**  
**MARY PAGE**

**WEST OF ENGLAND MAYOR**

**1ST MAY**



Dear neighbour,

The Green Party offers a **New Green Deal**.

We have a plan which puts people and communities at the heart of our region.

After 15 years of cuts too many people and businesses are struggling. Instead of **us being better off**, it's just the multi-millionaires who have more money in the bank.

The only growth is how much we're paying in rent or our mortgages, how long we have to work, and how much time it takes to travel around the region. Some homes aren't fit to live in, too many jobs don't pay enough to live on, and **our transport is in gridlock**.

**My Nature, Nurture and Needs plan** will provide **sustainable jobs, better homes** and **reliable transport** in an environment where we can thrive.

Vote for me, **Mary Page** and **We Can** grow together.

**Business Development**  
**Work Coach**  
**Co-founder It's Our City Bristol**  
**Community Project Worker**



**MARY PAGE**



## **MARY'S NATURE, NURTURE AND NEEDS PLAN**

### **NATURE: PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT AND EMPOWER COMMUNITIES**

1st week: Boost support for community projects and funding bids  
1st year: Build environmental protection into neighbourhood plans

### **NURTURE: GROW A THRIVING ECONOMY WITH SUSTAINABLE SKILLS**

1st week: Begin review of sustainability outcomes for policy and process  
1st year: Raise skill levels in adult English, maths, green and digital tech

### **NEEDS: RELIABLE REGULAR INTEGRATED TRANSPORT**

1st week: Start process of bringing buses under public control  
1st year: Deliver free/cheap travel with the Freedom Smart Card



**Green Party**



[westofengland@southwest.greenparty.org.uk](mailto:westofengland@southwest.greenparty.org.uk)

Promoted by Jenny Vernon on behalf of Mary Page (Green Party)  
all at 17 Great George Street, Bristol BS1 5QT.



# BANKS FOR BRISTOL AND THE WEST OF ENGLAND

My plan is to hold the local councils accountable and demand they provide better services while cutting waste. I'm shocked but not surprised at the level of incompetence from all three local councils.

**ARRON BANKS**



**A Strong West of England  
My Plan for Real Change**

## MY PLEDGE IS

- ✓ To shut the Metro Mayor's Office and the fancy building, and to create a small focused team working on your priorities.
- ✓ To dismantle waste, cut bureaucracy, and improve the services you rely on.
- ✓ To commission a rolling independent audit to uncover waste, fraud, and mismanagement, ensuring full transparency.
- ✓ To donate the entire salary as West of England Mayor to a range of local charities.
- ✓ To demand the re-opening of Thornbury High Street to cars and work to restore life to the town.
- ✓ To deliver real services and common sense policies, not play petty politics.

**VOTE REFORM UK | MAY 1<sup>ST</sup> 2025**

**LOCAL ELECTIONS**

**REFORMUK**

# HELEN GODWIN

Labour's candidate for the **West of England Mayor**



## A NEW CHAPTER FOR THE WEST OF ENGLAND

Dear resident,

**The West of England is my home.** It's where I was born, grew up and now I'm raising my children here.

I am standing to be your next Mayor because **I have the experience and fresh ideas to deliver change across our region.**

I've been a business leader and served as a council cabinet member, **fighting to protect the essential services that we all rely on.**

As your Mayor, **I'll champion the West of England every day** and focus on what matters most to you: building a reliable and connected public transport system, developing new homes with the services they need, protecting our precious environment and attracting jobs of the future to our doorstep.

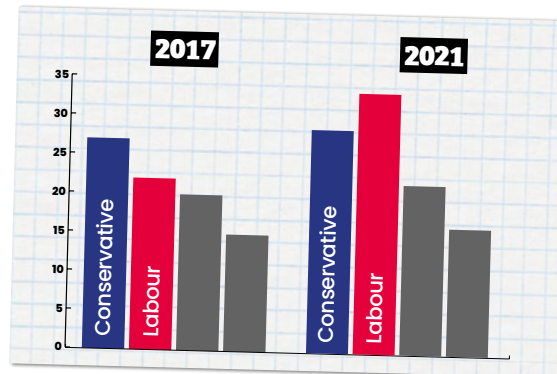
I will work with the Labour Government to **deliver real results for everyone who lives in the West of England.**

**Vote Labour on Thursday 1 May.**

Best wishes,

*Helen*

*P.S. Elections in the West of England are always close between Labour and the Conservatives. I'm the only candidate who can beat the Conservatives and deliver change for our region.*



Previous West of England election results

# HELEN'S PLAN FOR THE WEST OF ENGLAND



Work with the Labour Government to unlock new funding for the region



Deliver a reliable bus network with one ticket, one timetable



Secure new railway stations including Ashton Gate, St Annes, Filton North (Brabazon), Portishead, Saltford and Charfield



Build new homes with the schools, NHS services and transport links they need



Link education and industry, creating new jobs for the region



**I want to hear your views**

Email me at: [helengodwin@labour.org.uk](mailto:helengodwin@labour.org.uk)



**Vote Labour THURSDAY 1 MAY**

4010\_25 Promoted by Alex Mitchell on behalf of Helen Godwin, both at Bath Labour, 136a Walcot St, Bath, BA1 5BG.



## Oli Henman is ready to lead the West of England into a fairer, greener and brighter future.

He is a local Councillor in the leadership at Bath & NE Somerset and has extensive expertise in sustainable development, including as a UN advisor. Oli brings both international experience and a deep connection to our communities.

“ I’m committed to cutting waste in the Mayor’s office and putting power back where it belongs: in the hands of local communities. The West of England Mayor has a key role to play in delivering affordable and accessible transport, sustainable housing and the jobs of the future.

I will champion the needs of all local residents in these challenging times; listening and working collaboratively with our 3 local councils to ensure a fair deal for all.

The Liberal Democrats have the broadest reach of any party in the region, reflecting our growing momentum. With a strong track record of action, we are the clear alternative to years of ineffective leadership.

Oli Henman

Residents across the West of England have been faced with a higher cost of living and loss of vital services due to years of mismanagement and central government cuts.

**As Mayor, Oli will deliver a bold ambitious agenda for change, he will deliver reliable transport, affordable housing, and more jobs for the future.**

Prepared by F. Ustianowski on behalf of Oli Henman, Liberal Democrat. All at 31 James Street West, Bath, BA1 2BT.

### BETTER TRANSPORT

- ◆ Take control of local bus services through franchising, improving reliability, guaranteeing and bringing back essential routes, and capping fares.
- ◆ Deliver cheaper, reliable bus services for children and young people to get to school, college and university.
- ◆ Invest in an integrated transport network, including cycling infrastructure and developing a mass rapid transit system to connect towns, cities, and employment hubs.

### BETTER HOUSING

- ◆ Build more affordable and sustainable housing, including new social homes, by working with local councils and ensuring proper planning compliance.
- ◆ Prevent land banking by freeing up space in underused brownfield sites.
- ◆ Support community engagement on housing development plans to ensure the right homes in the right places, while protecting and enhancing the environment through Biodiversity Net Gain.

### BETTER ENVIRONMENT

- ◆ Invest in renewable energy (hydroelectric, tidal, solar, and wind) to meet the 2030 target for clean energy.
- ◆ Expand support to accelerate retrofitting homes with insulation and renewable energy.
- ◆ Promote biodiversity through regional nature partnerships, supporting community groups, conservationists and local farmers to implement natural flood management and ecosystem restoration.

### BETTER ECONOMY AND JOBS

- ◆ Expand training and apprenticeships to help people re-enter the workforce, focusing on key industries like net zero construction, renewables, and technology innovation.
- ◆ Work with local businesses, start-ups, technology experts and engineering companies to create quality jobs and career opportunities in the industries of the future.
- ◆ Establish a £100 million West of England Investment Fund to support infrastructure and economic development.

### BETTER LOCAL CONTROL

- ◆ Improve transparency in the Mayor’s office to redirect resources towards frontline services and investments in local communities.
- ◆ Seek powers to control business rates and regulate short-term lets, ensuring local investment benefits residents.
- ◆ Convene ‘community conversations’ to listen to diverse stakeholders, from residents, community organisations, local authorities and business representatives in order to develop a sense of collective purpose on transport, housing and jobs.



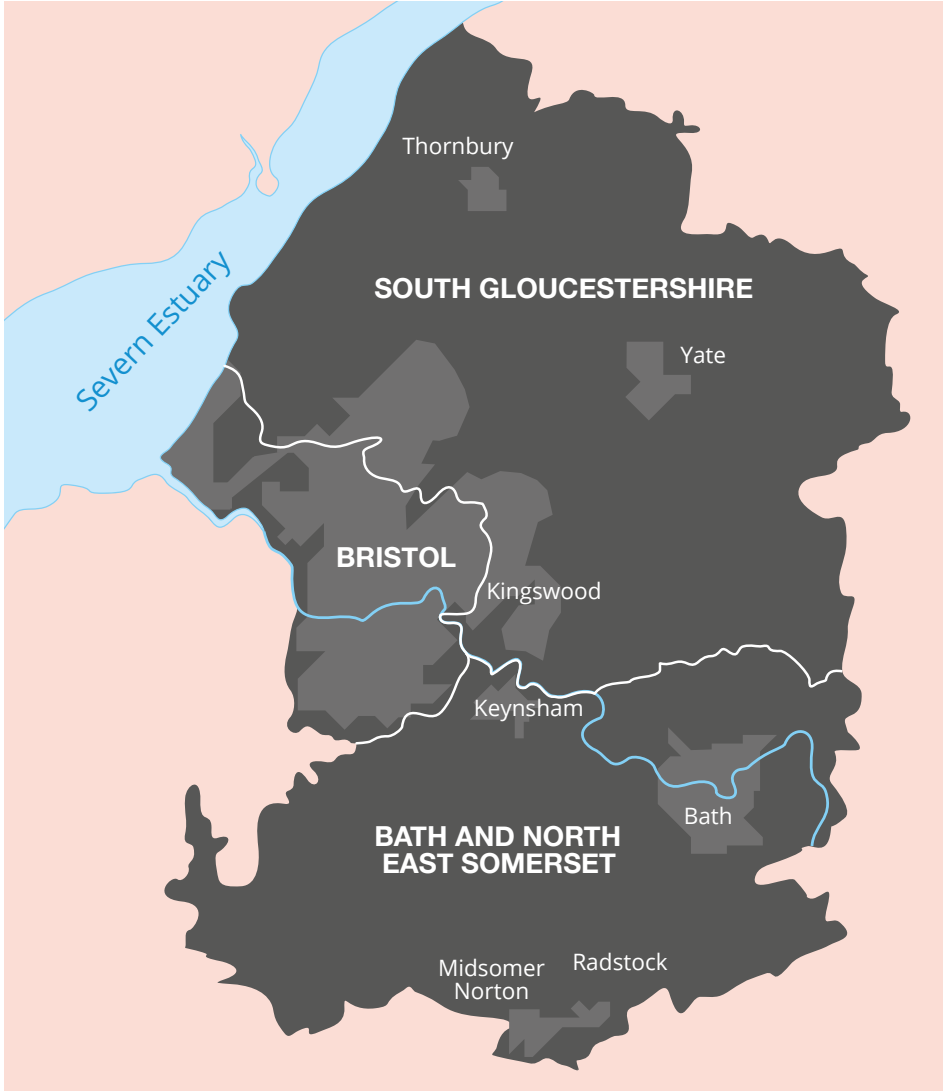
**Oli HENMAN**

West of England Mayor Candidate

 [hello@olihenman.co.uk](mailto:hello@olihenman.co.uk)



# West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Area






## Need more help?


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Your polling station is listed on your poll card/letter. For help finding or identifying your polling station you can call your local council:


### **Bath & North East Somerset**

 01225 477 333

### **Bristol**

 01179 223 400

### **South Gloucestershire**

 01454 863 030

## Further information

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For more information visit:


 [westofengland-ca.gov.uk/election](https://westofengland-ca.gov.uk/election)



## Alternative formats

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If you need this information in a different format please contact:

 01179 223 400

 [elections@westofengland-ca.gov.uk](mailto:elections@westofengland-ca.gov.uk)



**WEST** | MAYORAL  
OF ENGLAND | COMBINED  
AUTHORITY

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