

ENABLING SMALL BUSINESS, TOURISM & CULTURE TO THRIVE

GREEN VISION What we are aiming for overall

Worcester is an historic city with a strong arts and culture sector and has many local independent shops that all contribute to the vibrancy and strength of our city.

We support the reuse and regeneration of the city's built environment for arts activities, workshops and businesses and to provide new jobs and apprenticeship opportunities.

We support a transition to a Green economy to address the growing inequality in society. We need a fair and sustainable local economy with positive social and environmental outcomes. The council has a critical role in preparing people and places to the impacts of climate change.

GREEN PRIORITIES What we will try to do in the next four years

- Support small businesses, market traders and co-operatives to create local wealth and jobs, through providing affordable spaces for them.
- Develop the skills of local people to decarbonise our local economy and housing stock, in partnership with local training providers.
- Continuing to support the redevelopment of the Shrub Hill Quarter to provide better facilities for arts organisations and small businesses.
- Deliver the Council's Culture and Heritage Strategy.
- Find cost-effective ways to support local museums, arts venues and visitor information services.
- Support Small Business Saturday and shopping locally all year round.
- Develop a Climate Adaptation Plan for the city.



Candidate Annie Swift highlighting the importance of good local transport networks

ENABLING SMALL BUSINESS, TOURISM & CULTURE TO THRIVE

GREEN ACTION What we have already done

Through working collaboratively across the city council, we have:

- Helped to fund community arts projects such as Light up the Arbo and street art, Vamos, Severn Arts, Worcester Literary Festival, Worcester Musical Theatre Company, All Sorts of Performing Arts and Threads (Worcester Stitch and Textile Art Group).
- Supported the regeneration of the city centre in the north with the Arches and La Scala projects.
- Passed a Fair Tax Motion so that council procurement considers company ethics.

Green councillors and candidates collectively have a lot of experience of running culture and heritage projects and small businesses locally.

As community campaigners we have:

- Elena Round, Katie Collier and Karen Lewing are trustees of the Hopmarket Charity, supporting small independent businesses.
- Louis Stephen is on the board of the Museum of Royal Worcester
- Hannah Cooper and Karen Lewing ran outdoor Christmas carol services during COVID.
- Cllr Tor Pingree is on Worcester Arts Council, which supports local amateur arts organisations
- Matthew Jenkins uses his divisional funds to support many local cultural groups.
- Andrew Cross is helping the Malayali Community and their tug of war team Worcester Themmedi.



Councillors supporting Small Business Saturday



Campaigners Annie Swift and Rob Otto supporting a new independent shop