

West of England Mayor – Election Hustings

Wednesday 26th April 2017

Tim Bowles

Conservative

Darren Hall

Green

John Savage

Independent

Lesley Mansell

Labour

Stephen Williams

Lib Dem

(Aaron Foot

UKIP - cancelled)





Aaron FOOT, UKIP

Man-made climate change or science not yet proven?

- Man-made climate change
- Climate change – science not yet proven?

Which of these would you promote the development of:

- Low carbon energy sources
- Fracking

Economic measure: GDP growth or health and happiness index?

- GDP growth
- Health and happiness

Do you believe in open, evidence-based policy making?

- Yes
- No

Rank your preferred sources of electricity (1 = highest, 7 = lowest)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Biomass	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Coal	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Nuclear	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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Solar	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

TRANSPORT

Prioritise these projects (5 = highest, 0 = lowest/will never happen while I am mayor)

(These all related to Bath only, not other parts of the region.)

	5	4	3	2	1	0
A36-A46 Link Road	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bathampton Meadows Park & Ride Site B	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bathampton Meadows Park & Ride Site F	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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Great Western Bath-Bristol electrification	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Do you own a car – if so are you prepared to say what type of car it is and its CO2 emissions?

Fiat van built in 2002

TRANSPORT continued

Roughly how many miles do you cover using different modes of transport? (airplane, car, taxi, train, bus, cycle, walk)

-

Do you think the Bath-Bristol cyclepath should be replaced by a light-rail network?

As I'm standing on a policy of E-democracy I'd let the voter choose how their tax is spent.

Do you think autonomous self-drive cars will make most forms of other transport obsolete in 10-15 years' time?

I'd like to look ahead more and maybe promote drone transport.

Will you use your planning, transport and investment powers to drive growth, a cleaner environment or both?

Yes

HOUSING AND LAND USE

Roughly what percentage of the 20,000 new homes that need to be built in B&NES by 2036 do you think realistically will need to be built on the Green Belt?

I will fight to protect the green belt. Let's look at building up not out.

HOUSING AND LAND USE continued

Which energy standard would you prefer new homes in the region to be built to?

- Minimum Building Regs
- Minimum Building Regs + 10% CO₂ (emerging B&NES Placemaking standard)
- Something close to the old Code for Sustainable Homes 5 Standard
- New European 'Cost optimal standard'
- Passivhaus

What is the most important investment you have made in your home to make it more energy efficient?

We currently have an off grid energy system so no pulling power from the National Grid all funded by myself and we claim no F.I.Ts.

SKILLS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

What type of jobs should be prioritised in the new region?

We can keep the growth of small and medium sized enterprises going by helping with skill based learning.

Do you see the clean energy sector as a major employer in our region? If yes how would you be prepared to work towards its expansion?

-

Should Bath rely on tourism for its economic development?

Yes it should be a combination of existing and new business.

What is your top idea to ensure our region is a beacon for growth through a low carbon 21st century economy?

Talking to the voter and finding out how they want their money spent is key.

TRANSPORT

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Do you own a car – if so are you prepared to say what type of car it is and its CO2 emissions?

VW T4 campervan. It is 13 years old so not great on emissions, but I do less than 5000 miles a year in it.

TRANSPORT continued

Roughly how many miles do you cover using different modes of transport? (airplane, car, taxi, train, bus, cycle, walk)

I commute by train, bus and bicycle, but I have a camper van that I use infrequently, mainly to go surfing!

Do you think the Bath-Bristol cyclepath should be replaced by a light-rail network?

No. As well as, but definitely not instead of.

Do you think autonomous self-drive cars will make most forms of other transport obsolete in 10-15 years' time?

I think there will be significant changes, but we still have to concentrate on the main forces of public transport, cycling and walking in order to provide mass transit for people who are less able to afford vehicles, especially expensive autonomous vehicles.

Will you use your planning, transport and investment powers to drive growth, a cleaner environment or both?

A clean, green strategy is good for growth, indeed it is the only way we can provide prosperity at the same time as protecting the planet.

HOUSING AND LAND USE

Roughly what percentage of the 20,000 new homes that need to be built in B&NES by 2036 do you think realistically will need to be built on the Green Belt?

0%

HOUSING AND LAND USE continued

Which energy standard would you prefer new homes in the region to be built to?

- Minimum Building Regs
- Minimum Building Regs + 10% CO₂ (emerging B&NES Placemaking standard)
- Something close to the old Code for Sustainable Homes 5 Standard
- New European 'Cost optimal standard'
- Passivhaus

What is the most important investment you have made in your home to make it more energy efficient?

Most of the easy stuff like double glazing, etc, were already sorted so I have added a 4kW solar PV system that is connected to my hot water system through an immersion heater switch.

SKILLS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

What type of jobs should be prioritised in the new region?

Future proof jobs i.e. those that are part of a circular economy strategy.

Do you see the clean energy sector as a major employer in our region? If yes how would you be prepared to work towards its expansion?

Absolutely, Molly Scott Cato's report clearly shows the potential for the South West.

Should Bath rely on tourism for its economic development?

It is part of the answer, and greater emphasis on reducing its environmental impact can help it continue to be a strong part of Bath's economy.

What is your top idea to ensure our region is a beacon for growth through a low carbon 21st century economy?

I want to establish the region as a global leader in the circular economy, leading the way in the next generation of smart urban living, supported by organic agriculture, resilient, diverse social enterprise and businesses that are prepared to adopt a balanced "people, planet and profit" for the future.

TRANSPORT

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Do you own a car – if so are you prepared to say what type of car it is and its CO2 emissions?

Saab 95

TRANSPORT continued

Roughly how many miles do you cover using different modes of transport? (airplane, car, taxi, train, bus, cycle, walk)

-

Do you think the Bath-Bristol cyclepath should be replaced by a light-rail network?

No.

Do you think autonomous self-drive cars will make most forms of other transport obsolete in 10-15 years' time?

No.

Will you use your planning, transport and investment powers to drive growth, a cleaner environment or both?

Both.

HOUSING AND LAND USE

Roughly what percentage of the 20,000 new homes that need to be built in B&NES by 2036 do you think realistically will need to be built on the Green Belt?

As little as possible.

HOUSING AND LAND USE continued

Which energy standard would you prefer new homes in the region to be built to?

- Minimum Building Regs
- Minimum Building Regs + 10% CO₂ (emerging B&NES Placemaking standard)
- Something close to the old Code for Sustainable Homes 5 Standard
- New European 'Cost optimal standard'
- Passivhaus

What is the most important investment you have made in your home to make it more energy efficient?

Insulation.

SKILLS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

What type of jobs should be prioritised in the new region?

A mix of sectors so that there is no over reliance on one particular industry. I am particularly keen to see Bath continue to develop creative, high tech industries and to help new businesses move to the area and to see entrepreneurs see the region as an area that is ideal to start new businesses.

Do you see the clean energy sector as a major employer in our region? If yes how would you be prepared to work towards its expansion?

Yes. I want to see the region develop as a hub for new renewable sector industries.

Should Bath rely on tourism for its economic development?

The tourism and visitor economy is important to Bath but I will ensure Bath has a diverse mix of businesses providing good jobs.

What is your top idea to ensure our region is a beacon for growth through a low carbon 21st century economy?

Support for start up and technology businesses, ensuring suitable premises are built as part of future developments, improved broadband provision to allow more working from home.

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Do you own a car – if so are you prepared to say what type of car it is and its CO2 emissions?

Yes, I have a VW Golf but am not sure of its emissions

TRANSPORT continued

Roughly how many miles do you cover using different modes of transport? (airplane, car, taxi, train, bus, cycle, walk)

46 miles by car on my daily commute.

Do you think the Bath-Bristol cyclepath should be replaced by a light-rail network?

I think we should look at light-rail and cycling together.

Do you think autonomous self-drive cars will make most forms of other transport obsolete in 10-15 years' time?

It will probably take a bit longer than that. We should prepare by investing in active transport as it is green, healthy and sustainable.

Will you use your planning, transport and investment powers to drive growth, a cleaner environment or both?

Both.

HOUSING AND LAND USE

Roughly what percentage of the 20,000 new homes that need to be built in B&NES by 2036 do you think realistically will need to be built on the Green Belt?

Only a very small percentage. I would release a small proportion of the most accessible and poorest quality green belt land and designate new green belt for every amount developed upon to retain the overall acreage.

HOUSING AND LAND USE continued

Which energy standard would you prefer new homes in the region to be built to?

- Minimum Building Regs
- Minimum Building Regs + 10% CO₂ (emerging B&NES Placemaking standard)
- Something close to the old Code for Sustainable Homes 5 Standard
- New European 'Cost optimal standard'
- Passivhaus

What is the most important investment you have made in your home to make it more energy efficient?

Energy efficient appliances and compact fluorescent bulbs.

SKILLS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

What type of jobs should be prioritised in the new region?

Jobs in renewable energy, the high tech and engineering sector and construction.

Do you see the clean energy sector as a major employer in our region? If yes how would you be prepared to work towards its expansion?

I do. I would work with clean energy companies to invest in the skills they need from the labour market and invest in the infrastructure they require to generate clean energy.

Should Bath rely on tourism for its economic development?

Tourism is important of course, but it would be wrong to try to rely on it for economic development. New investments are needed, in housing, in transport, in energy and in skills.

What is your top idea to ensure our region is a beacon for growth through a low carbon 21st century economy?

As Metro Mayor, I will set up a commercially attractive regional energy company to encourage investment into carbon free energy sources.

TRANSPORT

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Do you own a car – if so are you prepared to say what type of car it is and its CO2 emissions?

Yes, a Peugeot 206 diesel bought in 2001, when guidance was better than petrol

TRANSPORT continued

Roughly how many miles do you cover using different modes of transport? (airplane, car, taxi, train, bus, cycle, walk)

I've only taken ONE transcontinental personal flight in my life (to LA) and not many European ones. I travelled by train to London for the 10 years that I was an MP. I walk a lot and have used the bus and trains extensively in this campaign but clearly have had to drive between many villages.

Do you think the Bath-Bristol cyclepath should be replaced by a light-rail network?

No. The cycle path is popular and is a good alternative to the A4 for everyone. I would be prepared to consider a feasibility study to see if a tram could co-exist.

Do you think autonomous self-drive cars will make most forms of other transport obsolete in 10-15 years' time?

No, they will undoubtedly become a reality for which we should prepare. They could improve drive efficiency and speed compliance.

Will you use your planning, transport and investment powers to drive growth, a cleaner environment or both?

They are not mutually exclusive. More people working in the low carbon economy is also growth!

HOUSING AND LAND USE

Roughly what percentage of the 20,000 new homes that need to be built in B&NES by 2036 do you think realistically will need to be built on the Green Belt?

None if my policies on urban density and improving transport links to established settlements are followed.

HOUSING AND LAND USE continued

Which energy standard would you prefer new homes in the region to be built to?

- Minimum Building Regs
- Minimum Building Regs + 10% CO₂ (emerging B&NES Placemaking standard)
- Something close to the old Code for Sustainable Homes 5 Standard
- New European 'Cost optimal standard'
- Passivhaus

What is the most important investment you have made in your home to make it more energy efficient?

Double glazed PVC frame windows

SKILLS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

What type of jobs should be prioritised in the new region?

See my manifesto for a comprehensive section on the economy. But low carbon and local food are also mentioned.

Do you see the clean energy sector as a major employer in our region? If yes how would you be prepared to work towards its expansion?

Yes. See sections in my manifesto on the Severn tidal potential, using food waste for bio-methane buses.

Should Bath rely on tourism for its economic development?

It's an important sector. But impact on area needs to be ameliorated, my manifesto advocates a hotel room tax.

What is your top idea to ensure our region is a beacon for growth through a low carbon 21st century economy?

Working with Welsh government on Severn tidal energy.

John SAVAGE, Independent

Man-made climate change or science not yet proven?

- Man-made climate change
- Climate change – science not yet proven?

Which of these would you promote the development of:

- Low carbon energy sources
- Fracking

Economic measure: GDP growth or health and happiness index?

- GDP growth
- Health and happiness

Do you believe in open, evidence-based policy making?

- Yes
- No

Rank your preferred sources of electricity (1 = highest, 7 = lowest)

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Tram or light-rail network	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cable car	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Diesel 'Toxin Tax'	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Low carbon emissions zone for Bath	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
New Box and Corsham railway stations	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Guarantee city centre bus fares are lower than parking charges	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bathampton Meadows Freight Depot	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Traffic free zone for centre of Bath	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Great Western Bath-Bristol electrification	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Do you own a car – if so are you prepared to say what type of car it is and its CO2 emissions?

Lexus HYBRID

TRANSPORT continued

Roughly how many miles do you cover using different modes of transport? (airplane, car, taxi, train, bus, cycle, walk)

100 per week.

Do you think the Bath-Bristol cyclepath should be replaced by a light-rail network?

Combined.

Do you think autonomous self-drive cars will make most forms of other transport obsolete in 10-15 years' time?

No.

Will you use your planning, transport and investment powers to drive growth, a cleaner environment or both?

Both.

HOUSING AND LAND USE

Roughly what percentage of the 20,000 new homes that need to be built in B&NES by 2036 do you think realistically will need to be built on the Green Belt?

25

HOUSING AND LAND USE continued

Which energy standard would you prefer new homes in the region to be built to?

- Minimum Building Regs
- Minimum Building Regs + 10% CO₂ (emerging B&NES Placemaking standard)
- Something close to the old Code for Sustainable Homes 5 Standard
- New European 'Cost optimal standard'
- Passivhaus

What is the most important investment you have made in your home to make it more energy efficient?

Downsized

SKILLS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

What type of jobs should be prioritised in the new region?

Hi tech modern solution businesses.

Do you see the clean energy sector as a major employer in our region? If yes how would you be prepared to work towards its expansion?

Yes and Yes.

Should Bath rely on tourism for its economic development?

Not rely but it is a contributor.

What is your top idea to ensure our region is a beacon for growth through a low carbon 21st century economy?

Reduce reliance on motorised individual transport units.

TRANSPORT – Long question

Within your four year term, other than high cost schemes, what incremental improvements to existing transport solutions will you implement in Bath? How would you create a culture where walking and cycling is inclusive and the norm?



HOUSING & LAND USE – Long question

Bath and its environs are beautiful - who wouldn't want to live here! There are huge profits to be made from housing development, yet there are potentially huge environmental costs too. In a number of recent major housing developments, developers have reduced both the number of affordable homes and sustainable construction standards saying that these are not financially viable. What would you do to ensure the construction of more affordable homes and higher than minimum levels of insulation and CO₂ emissions?



SKILLS & ECON DEVT – Long question

Bath has two universities and research shows that its population has higher than average levels of education but proportionately lower than average wage levels from a local economy dominated by retail and hospitality. What would you do to build a more balanced economy in the area of jobs and skills?





Transition Bath

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