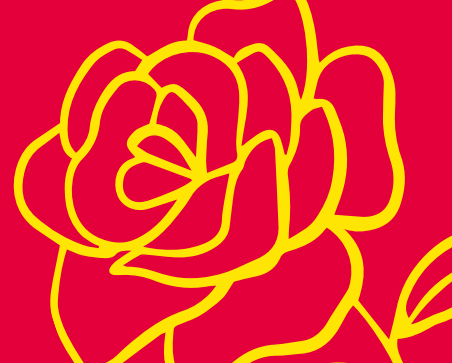


**DRIVING
TRAFFORD
FORWARD
TOGETHER**

**Local Election
Manifesto 2026**



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A message from The Leader



Over the past few years, Trafford has made real progress – and we're proud of it.

When Labour took control, we faced big challenges. Years of Conservative government cuts had left services struggling, while their botched deal with Amey locally left us with limited room to act. It was a tough inheritance.

Despite this, Trafford Labour has delivered.

We've protected frontline services, supported our most vulnerable residents, and kept our libraries open. At the same time we've invested in Trafford's future: regenerating our town centres, improving leisure facilities, and enhancing our green spaces for everyone.

At the heart of Greater Manchester, Trafford is part of the fastest-growing economy in the country. None of this is by chance – it reflects strong Labour leadership, determined to deliver for local people.

Trafford Labour is the only party with a clear vision and a practical plan for our borough.

While other parties, including the Lib Dems and Greens, oppose for the sake of it – offering no alternatives – we are getting on with the job.

While the Conservatives and Reform UK talk down Trafford – offering only division and decline – we believe in progress, partnership, and pride in our borough.

In May, this will be the choice on the ballot.

Together, we've achieved a lot.

Together, we can keep driving Trafford forwards.

Tom Ross

Cllr Tom Ross

Leader of Trafford
Council and Trafford
Labour

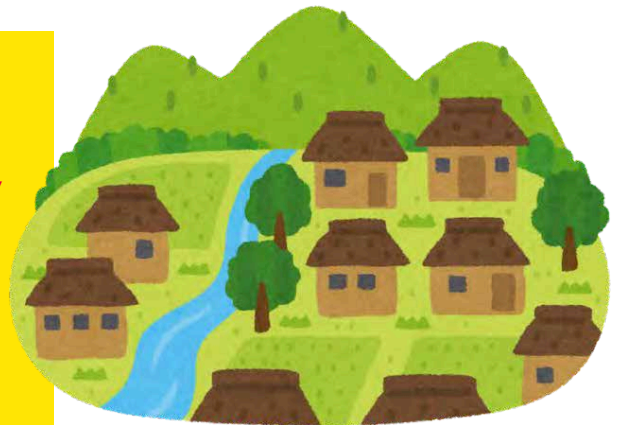


DEEDS, NOT WORDS:

Delivering for Trafford

Trafford Labour is about action, not promises. While other parties have come forward with no credible plans, we have delivered real change—improving our borough, investing in our communities, and supporting residents at every stage of life.

Housing: Over 1200 homes, including over 530 affordable, complete or near completion, helping more people find a place to call home.



Regeneration: Securing major investment in our town centres, including the transformation of Altrincham and Stretford.

Sport & Leisure: Opening a new state-of-the-art leisure centre in Altrincham, increasing access to sport in Partington, and progressing plans for investment in Sale and Stretford.





Transport: Backing the Bee Network to deliver better-connected services and more affordable fares for residents.

Support for Families:

Establishing a network of Family Hubs, giving parents and children access to vital support and services close to home.



A Greener Trafford: Working with community groups to secure 12 Green Flag parks, protecting and enhancing our green spaces.

Safer Communities: Working with Greater Manchester Police to cut neighbourhood crime and put more officers back on our streets.



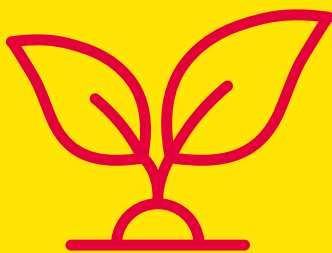
INVESTING IN TRAFFORD AS A GREAT PLACE TO



LIVE,



WORK &



GROW

OUR VISION

Trafford sits at the heart of Greater Manchester – the fastest growing city-region in the country.

We are determined that this growth is felt by **all of our residents, in all of our communities.**

In doing so, Trafford Labour reject the politics of division and decline that is too often peddled by opposition parties.

We have a long-term vision for our borough, which will:

- ▶ Build homes for the future and continue the exciting regeneration of our town and district centres
- ▶ Give our children and young people the best start in life
- ▶ Support our residents to live healthy, independent lives

HOUSING & REGENERATION



We are the only party in Trafford with a credible plan to deliver the homes of the future — including the affordable and social rented homes our communities urgently need.

While others focus on the arguments of the past, ignoring the housing crisis we are facing today, Trafford Labour is taking the bold, practical decisions needed to deliver. We are building homes for everyone — whether you're looking to downsize, buy your first home, or raise a family.

And we will do it the right way: with proper planning and the infrastructure our communities rely on — more school places, better healthcare, and safe, welcoming spaces for children to play.



Our strong leadership and clear vision are also driving the regeneration of Trafford's town and district centres, bringing in investment and turning long-standing plans into real progress.

While the Conservatives and Reform have talked down investment in places like Stretford, Trafford Labour has delivered it.

We know our high streets are changing. That's why we've acted to help them adapt and succeed — supporting local businesses and creating vibrant places people want to spend time in.

And we're not stopping there. We will keep investing to make Trafford an even better place to live, work and enjoy.



2026 PLEDGES

Trafford Labour's commitments for the May local elections:

Build on the success of regeneration in Altrincham and Stretford by progressing plans for Urmston and working to secure future investment for Sale.

We recognise the importance of our district centres and will continue to support Ashton, Hale, Sale Moor and Timperley, ensuring fair investment across the whole borough.

Maintain our commitment to delivering more affordable and social rented homes, while working towards truly affordable, net zero homes for the future.

Ensure all new homes are built as accessible "Homes for Life", using the planning system to make sure they can meet the needs of all residents at every stage of their life.

Put employment and skills for local people at the heart of regeneration – working with local colleges to create pathways into skilled, well-paid jobs, including opportunities through construction.

Maximise the social value of new developments by launching Trafford's "Match My Project" database in 2026 – connecting developers with local community groups to support projects that matter to residents.

Ensure Trafford remains a great place to do business by delivering modern, fit-for-purpose retail and employment spaces, and continuing our successful "Shop Improvement Grant", which since 2024 has helped create over 60 jobs and refurbish more than 5,000 sqm of business space.



BRENTWOOD COLLEGE
Skills for Life

THE BEST START

IN LIFE FOR OUR

CHILDREN &

YOUNG PEOPLE

Children and young people are at the heart of our vision for Trafford.

After years of cuts under previous Conservative administrations, the services families rely on were stretched and, in some cases, left struggling to cope. Trafford Labour has made it a top priority to rebuild and strengthen that support, ensuring every child has the chance to thrive.

We are already taking action. Our continued roll-out of Family Hubs is transforming support for parents and young children across the borough – the first investment of this kind since Sure Start – giving families a single place to access the help, advice and services they need from the earliest stages of a child’s life.



And we know that supporting children means supporting families too. That's why we will support and build on the work of the Labour government — including free breakfast clubs and expanded free childcare — helping parents with the cost of living while giving every child the best possible start.

**This is our commitment:
to back our children,
support our families, and
create the opportunities
every young person in
Trafford deserves.**



2026 PLEDGES

Trafford Labour's commitments for the May local elections:

- Continue rolling out our **Family Hub network**, supporting new parents and families right across the borough.
- Continue to protect and expand **Trafford's Youth Service**, supporting children and young people across the borough.
- Having secured the **Loreto Prep site**, we will move at pace to **expand secondary school places** in the south of the borough.
- **Expand specialist provision** in Trafford schools, including more small, tailored classrooms and enhanced teacher training, so more children with special educational needs can thrive in mainstream education.
- Tackle **underage vaping** by supporting our public health teams to work closely with schools and colleges and establishing a Responsible Shopkeeper Charter – setting the clear expectation that any business selling vapes to children faces losing its licence.
- Promote activities in our **libraries** for young children and families, while ensuring they remain safe, welcoming spaces for young people to study and access IT.
- Reduce the time children spend in temporary accommodation by delivering the **affordable and social rented homes** our borough needs.
- Support every young person to **access education, training or work after 16** – creating opportunities for those facing barriers to build confidence and gain skills.
- Work with the Renew Hub to provide **low-cost bikes for children**, and continue investing in our **School Streets** programme to help pupils travel safely to school.
- Invest in **play equipment in our parks** and ensure all new developments include high-quality spaces for children to play.
- Continue to promote **Trafford's Music Service scholarship scheme**, helping young people develop their talents.
- Work with **City of Trees** to plant a tree for every child whose birth is registered in Trafford.



**Trafford
Partnership**
For Trafford
People
Eco
Environment
Culture

HEALTHY &

INDEPENDENT

LIVES

Trafford Council has a clear statutory duty to protect and support our most vulnerable residents. Today, children's and adults' social care accounts for more than 60% of our budget, with the cost of supporting vulnerable adults rising by around 40% since 2018. These pressures are real, and they are growing.

Trafford Labour will always do what is necessary to protect these vital services. But we are determined to go further — investing in the support people need to live healthy, happy and independent lives.

Because this is not just the right thing to do; it is the smart thing to do. By helping people stay well, stay connected, and stay in their own homes for longer, we can reduce the need for more intensive and costly care later in life.

That is why we back the Mayor of Greater Manchester's Live Well agenda — bringing services closer to communities and focusing on prevention and early support. In Trafford, we are funding six community hubs, including in Partington and Sale West, so residents can access advice, support and everyday services in the heart of their neighbourhoods.

Protecting the most vulnerable. Investing in independence. Building healthier communities for the future.



2026 PLEDGES

Trafford Labour's commitments for the May local elections:

- Ensure residents can **live independently and safely at home** for longer by investing in early intervention, practical support, and new technology, while adopting and spreading best practice.
- Continue our investment in Trafford's "front door" for adult social care, making it easier to access support through an improved online portal and direct payments system – **increasing choice and delivering better outcomes.**
- Empower our excellent Public Health Team to deliver initiatives that **improve health outcomes and reduce inequalities** across Trafford.
- Continue to back the **Greater Manchester Live Well agenda**, providing advice, support and everyday services through six community hubs across Trafford.
- Support our wider network of **community hubs** across the borough
- Build on our strong partnership with **Trafford Community Collective** and the voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise sector to promote inclusion, health and wellbeing.
- Take forward our **Poverty and Equality strategies**, embedding lived experience at the heart of policy and decision-making.
- Help residents into employment through **Job Clubs** in trusted community settings, recognising and addressing the complex barriers many people face.
- Tackle **digital exclusion** through **Trafford Tech4All** – delivering low cost IT equipment and digital training to residents young and old.

A CLEANER, GREENER & BETTER CONNECTED TRAFFORD



OUR VISION

Residents' sense of place matters — our streets, parks, and public spaces shape everyday life and community pride.

Like all local authorities, Trafford has seen budgets for day-to-day management squeezed, but Trafford Labour is committed to making every pound count. We will continue to maximise funding for roads, drainage, pavements, and environmental services — while lobbying hard for the additional resources our borough needs.

We are getting on with the job of:

- ▶ **Managing the Amey contract** – holding them to account now and preparing for the future
- ▶ **Supporting a cleaner, greener Trafford** – protecting our parks, improving streets and building environmental resilience
- ▶ **Delivering a better connected Trafford** – supporting our residents to get around and access opportunity



THE AMEY

CONTRACT

Under the last Conservative administration, Trafford's vital services were cut to the bone and set up to fail.

They gambled on outsourcing to Amey, while stripping around £7 million from essential services like roads, waste collection and parks. With rising inflation, those cuts have only grown deeper in real terms.



Worse still, they signed a 15-year contract with inadequate scrutiny - locking Trafford into a failing deal.



Trafford Labour is now managing the consequences. We have introduced strict monitoring, held Amey to account, and issued fines where standards have fallen short – and we will continue to do so.



However, we know we must go further to deliver the services our residents deserve and improve oversight and accountability.

2026 PLEDGES

Trafford Labour's commitments for the May local elections:

Starting the hard work on a new contract from 2030 - with the goal of bringing back as many services as operationally possible back in-house after 2030.

This work will focus on delivering value for money, accountability and improved services. We will learn the lessons from Trafford Conservatives' botched job on this - not using it as a smokescreen to cut services, but instead as an opportunity to drive the improvement of services in Trafford.



A CLEANER

& GREENER

TRAFFORD

Trafford Labour is proud of our borough – from our vibrant communities to the fantastic green spaces that make our area such a special place to live.



We've worked hand in hand with dedicated local volunteers to protect and enhance our parks, including investment in new play equipment and security, helping Trafford achieve 12 Green Flag awards – a testament to the quality of the spaces we all share.

We are committed to keeping Trafford clean, tidy and resilient. That's why we've invested in additional resources, including expanding our fleet of gully cleaners – restoring some of the capacity previously cut by the Conservatives – to better tackle flooding and maintain our streets.



But we know there is more to do. Trafford Labour is determined to build a cleaner, greener future — meeting our environmental responsibilities while going further. Building on our strong record on recycling, we will continue to promote nature, support clean energy, and strengthen our resilience to climate change.

Because protecting Trafford's environment isn't just about today — it's about securing a better borough for the future.



2026 PLEDGES

Trafford Labour's commitments for the May local elections:

Using the extra capacity of our new gully cleaner, we will set the goal of EVERY blocked gully reported online to be cleared within 28 days.

Back the development of Carrington's Energy Campus – bringing clean energy, jobs and investment to the Borough.

Promote the introduction of modern urban drainage systems across the borough, supporting efforts to manage localised surface flooding, retrofitting this and ensuring it is designed into new development.

Support further greening efforts in Trafford Park, supporting businesses to reduce their energy use.

Support Greater Manchester's Local Nature Recovery strategy, including working to secure developer money to support nature improvements at William Wroe Meadows in Flixton.

Maintain our excellent recycling rates for the Borough.





A BETTER

CONNECTED

TRAFFORD

Trafford Labour believes that being better connected is key to a stronger, fairer borough — connecting people to opportunity, supporting our economy, and improving everyday life.



That's why we've backed the Bee Network, bringing bus services back under local control. This is already delivering more reliable services, cheaper and more flexible fares — with further improvements on the way, including more frequent buses to Partington and a new night service linking the city centre with Stretford, Sale and Altrincham.



We are committed to giving people real choice in how they travel. We've secured investment to improve pedestrian routes and deliver new cycle lanes, making it easier and safer to get around without a car.



We're also investing in our roads. With increased funding from the government, we are stepping up work to repair potholes and improve road conditions — while continuing to hold Amey to account to ensure this work is delivered properly. But we know this is not enough, and we will keep pushing for the resources needed to tackle years of underinvestment.

Because a better connected Trafford means opportunity within reach for everyone.



2026 PLEDGES

Trafford Labour's commitments for the May local elections:

Back the Bee Network – protecting the £2 fare cap, 24-hour concessionary travel for older and disabled residents and push for further new and improved services

Provide the key infrastructure to support new homes, including progressing plans for the Carrington Relief Road after we secured £90m from the GM Good Growth Fund

Support active travel by continuing to invest in safer, more accessible streets – including improved pedestrian crossings.

Grow our Bike Library scheme and continue to support access to bikes for residents, helping more people choose active and affordable travel.

Seek to work with Manchester on the "Cyan Lines" initiative developing a network which links our fantastic green spaces and waterways.

Boost sustainable infrastructure by increasing on-street cycle parking and expanding access to electric vehicle charging.

Launch Trafford Trails to promote walking, wellbeing and better connections across our communities.



ENHANCING OUR LEISURE, CULTURE & HERITAGE



OUR VISION

Trafford is a great place to live – and a big part of that is our rich arts, culture, and heritage offer.

From historic sites to community events, to our strong traditions in sport and leisure, **our borough is full of opportunities to enjoy and participate in cultural life.**

Trafford Labour is committed to protecting, enhancing, and expanding this offer, ensuring everyone across our borough can access and benefit from these opportunities.

This is why we will:

- ▶ Preserve and celebrate Trafford's cultural and heritage assets for all residents.
- ▶ Continue the work of delivering a vibrant leisure offer that encourages participation, wellbeing, and enjoyment.



CULTURE &

HERITAGE

Trafford Labour is proud to champion our borough's culture and heritage, protecting what matters while investing for the future.



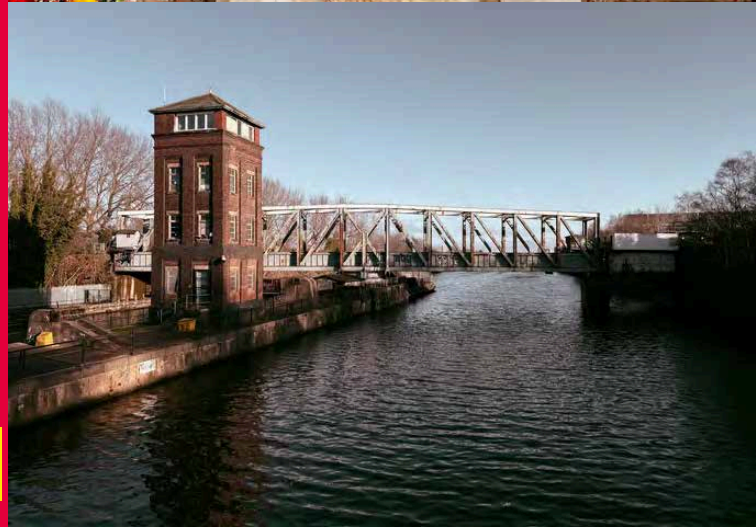
We've kept all our libraries open and thriving, choosing to protect these vital community spaces when others would have put them at risk. We've also secured new investment, including £347,000 to transform Sale Library. Last year alone, Trafford's libraries welcomed over 599,000 visitors, loaned more than 800,000 books and e-books, and hosted over 1,000 free community events — alongside providing essential digital support for residents.



We're equally proud of Trafford's sporting heritage and the role it plays in our economy and identity. That's why we've backed the borough as a host for major global events, including the ICC T20 Women's World Cup at Emirates Old Trafford — inspiring local women and girls and delivering real benefits for our communities.

Looking ahead, we are putting heritage at the heart of Trafford's future. We are developing a new Heritage Framework to unlock funding, protect historic sites, and celebrate the people and achievements that define our borough.

Trafford Labour will continue to protect and enhance our culture and heritage — ensuring it remains a source of pride and opportunity for all.



2026 PLEDGES

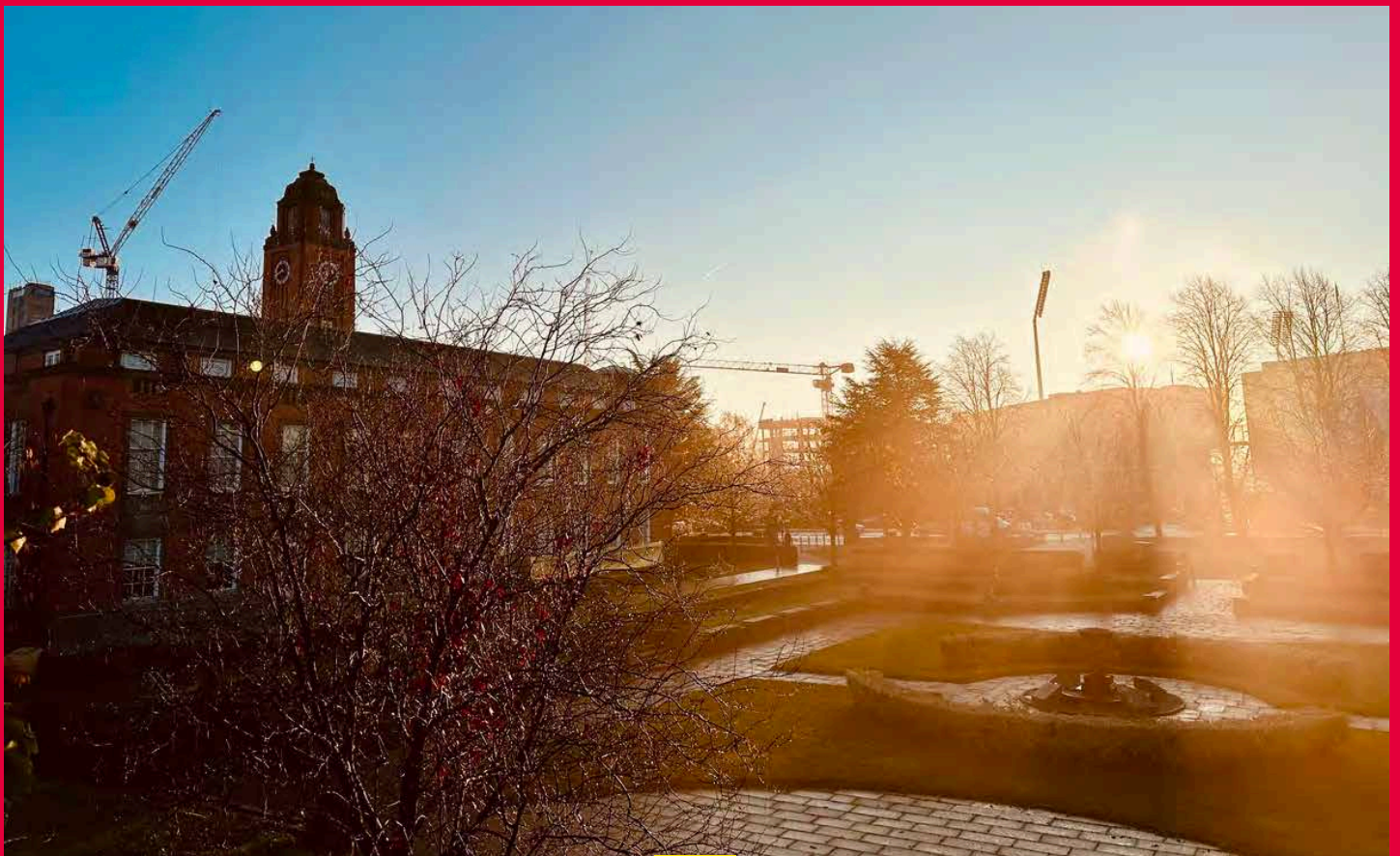
Trafford Labour's commitments for the May local elections:

Our libraries are key community hubs. We will keep them open and work to secure further investment following the recent refurbishment of Sale Library.

Bring the Heritage Framework to life and explore heritage initiatives that enhance our built environment and tell the stories of our local history and communities.

Develop our Cultural Cluster work across Trafford, linking groups that can support each other in the communities they represent.

Support Waterside Arts Centre as key provider of culture and arts, ensuring a wide programme of entertainment and arts for all.



LEISURE &

SPORTS



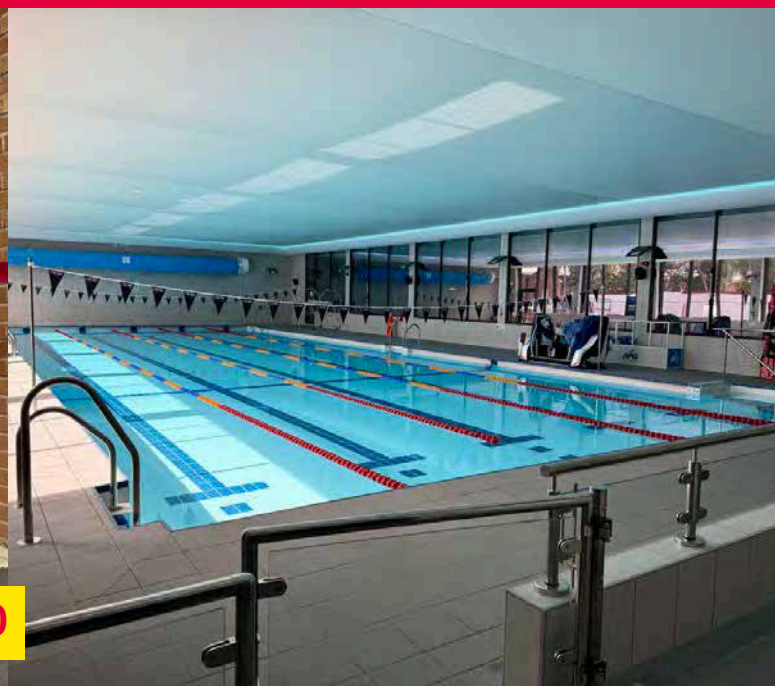
Trafford Labour is committed to high quality, accessible leisure – helping residents stay active, healthy, and connected.



Having completed the major upgrades of Altrincham and Urmston leisure centres, we are now on with the job of delivering an £18m upgrade of Partington Leisure Centre – creating modern facilities fit for the future.



We're improving local sports facilities, from a refurbished athletics track at Longford Park to upgraded tennis courts, alongside new community assets like a BMX pump track and better changing facilities in Partington.



We're also expanding free and inclusive opportunities, with new outdoor gyms at parks across Trafford and have secured funding to transform Old Trafford Sports Barn into a community-led wellbeing hub.



Trafford Labour will continue to protect and enhance our culture and heritage, ensuring it remains a source of pride and opportunity for all.



2026 PLEDGES

Trafford Labour's commitments for the May local elections:

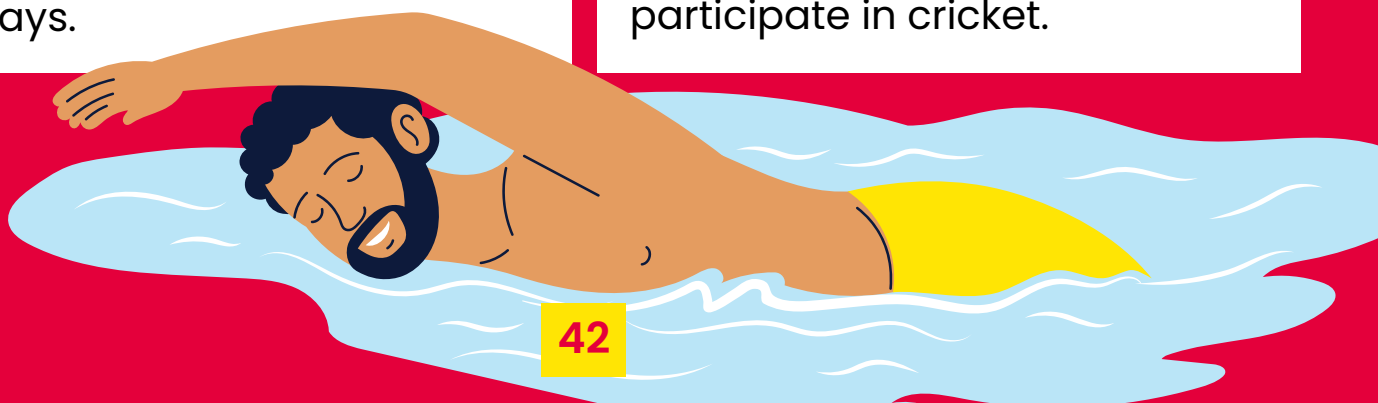
Continue to deliver on Trafford's leisure strategy with the redevelopment of Stretford and Sale's leisure centres, made possible through grant funding and the continued investment of our partners.

Improve, maintain, and invest in sports pitches across the borough based on supply, demand, and population growth to help guarantee our local clubs have access to the pitches they need to stay active and healthy.

Help make fast growing sports such as Padel more accessible to residents by opening up courts at Trafford's public leisure facilities, creating more opportunities for fun, while supporting active, healthy lifestyles.

Commit to expanding the Council's Holiday Activities and Food Programme, building on its success in engaging nearly 5,000 young people last year, aged five to 16, by increasing access to high-quality sport, physical activity and cultural opportunities during the Easter, Summer and Christmas holidays.

Maximise Trafford's role as a host city for the ICC T20 Women's World Cup by working with the Lancashire Cricket Foundation, grassroots clubs and local schools, ensuring that young people benefit from major sporting events and have greater opportunities to access and participate in cricket.



SUPPORTING SAFE & STRONG COMMUNITIES



OUR VISION

Safe, strong and united communities are the foundation of a thriving Trafford.

We believe people should feel secure in their neighbourhoods and proud of the places they call home.

Trafford Labour understand that we have a responsibility to promote safe and strong communities.

This means:

- ▶ Tackling crime and supporting efforts to keep people safe.
- ▶ Bringing people together – not allowing divisions to take hold.

A SAFE

BOROUGH



For people and communities to truly thrive, they must first feel safe.

Trafford Labour is committed to continuing our work with partners — including Greater Manchester Police — to improve safety and tackle crime.

We have supported the work of Andy Burnham, whose leadership has helped restore police numbers to levels higher than in 2010, before cuts imposed by the Conservative–Liberal Democrat coalition.

We will build on this strong track record, with the latest figures showing neighbourhood crime down by 21%, and theft and burglary reduced by around 30%.

This progress reflects our clear commitment to protecting every community we serve.



2026 PLEDGES

Trafford Labour's commitments for the May local elections:

Work with Mayor Andy Burnham and Greater Manchester Police to keep our burglary and general crime figures going down.

Maintain and expand our CCTV network, using the technology to catch and fine fly-tippers and support investigations into anti social behaviour.

Support the work of our Community Safety Team who lead on partnership work with Greater Manchester Police and our local Housing Providers.

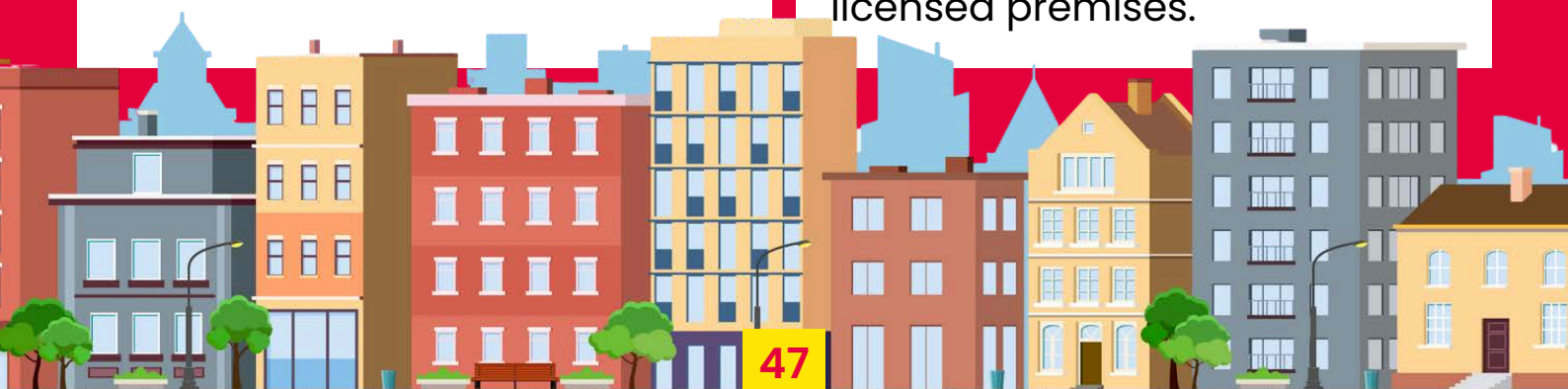
Develop a focused Trafford Gender Based Violence Strategy that supports the Greater Manchester Greater Than Violence Strategy.

Work with partners to get modified electric bikes and scooters off the roads and footpaths, use a zero-tolerance approach.

Continue our excellent record with securing closure orders – protecting vulnerable people and addressing antisocial behaviour.

Continue to work with Greater Manchester to reduce, and end, out of area taxi licensing.

Support our licensing team to ensure high standards and that people remain safe in licensed premises.





A UNITED

BOROUGH

Running a council brings with it a responsibility to bring communities together, not drive them apart.

As Labour Councillors, we understand this duty and do our best to live up to it – particularly in times of social tension or hardship, when local leadership can make the greatest difference. That's why we launched the first ever Trafford Faith Action Network, bringing people of all faiths together to build understanding, strengthen community ties and promote unity across Trafford. We've also backed the introduction of Trafford Community Awards, to recognise the contribution of volunteers and community groups that do so much good in our borough.



In Trafford, community cohesion is one of our greatest strengths. Nearly nine in ten residents (88%) say their area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together, according to the latest Greater Manchester Residents Survey — well above the Greater Manchester average.

Let's keep it this way and reject the politics of division.



2026 PLEDGES

Trafford Labour's commitments for the May local elections:

We will develop and implement a Community Cohesion Strategy.

We'll continue to support the community spaces and events that help bring people together, supporting local volunteers and the Trafford Faith Action Network.

We will develop our Cultural Cluster work across Trafford, linking groups that can support each other in the communities they represent.

TRAFFORD LABOUR'S 2026 CANDIDATES



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**VOTE
LABOUR**

**THURSDAY
7TH MAY**

**Trafford
Labour**