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 BusinessWest  
The Initiative

#RegionalGrowthUK

# Realising Regional Growth: West of England

Tuesday 25th April 2023 | 16:00 - 19:00  
Bristol



# Andrew Carter

Chief Executive | **Centre for Cities**

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# Victoria Matthews

Bristol Membership Director | **Business West**

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# Richard Ennis

Chief Executive | **West of England Combined Authority**

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# West of England Combined Authority



- Established in 2017 - 1 of 10 Mayoral Combined Authorities in England
- Welcomed our second elected metro mayor Dan Norris, in May 2021
- Manage Local Enterprise Partnership - business, universities, local government
- £1bn investment from Government over 30 years to boost region's economic growth
- Responsible for regional transport; housing delivery; adult skills; business support & inward investment...

Create West of England Transport

Tackling the climate & ecological emergency

Secure decent jobs & training

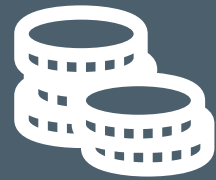
Affordable places to call home

Putting the West of England on the map for national & global success

# A great place to live and work

**1,165,600**

Total population:



**£40bn**

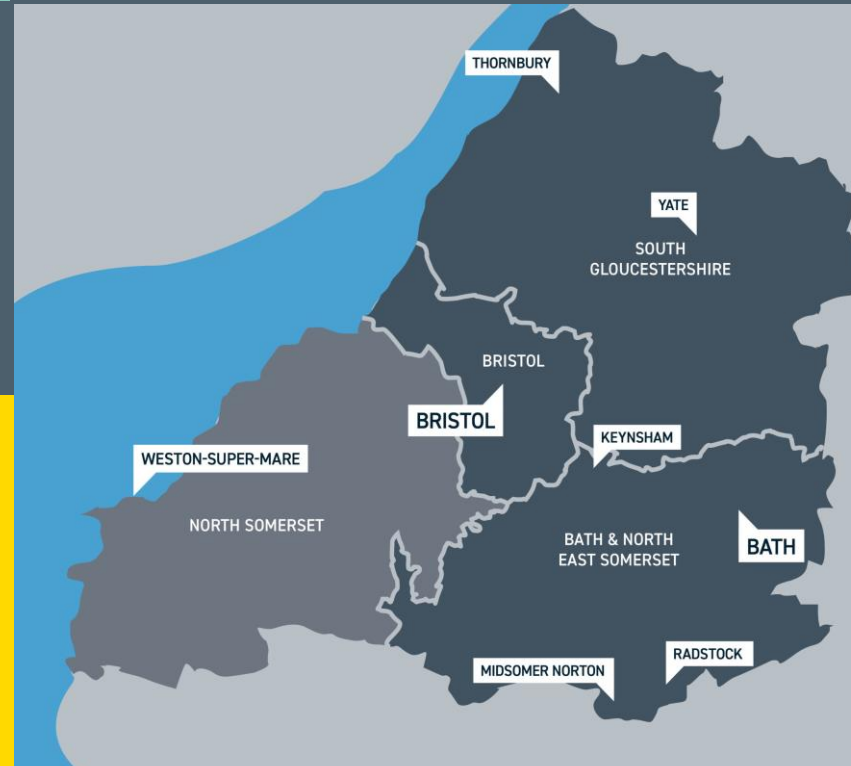
Regional economy worth over

**86,000** Students  
4 universities

48% working age population educated to degree of higher



Aim to be Net Zero by 2030 (10% year on year reduction)



Home to over

**46,000**  
businesses



**90+**

different languages spoken across the region



Most productive city region in England outside London

# Major investments in cutting-edge innovation



TEMPLE  
QUARTER  
ENTERPRISE  
CAMPUS  
10,000 HOMES  
QUANTUM TECH  
INNOVATION  
CENTRE (QTIC)



NATIONAL  
COMPOSITES  
CENTRE (NCC)

DIGITAL  
ENGINEERING  
TECHNOLOGY  
INNOVATION



INSTITUTE OF  
ADVANCED  
AUTOMOTIVE  
PROPULSION  
SYSTEMS (IAAPS)



# Improving Physical and Digital Connectivity



**£1 BILLION  
INVESTED IN  
RAIL, WALKING  
& CYCLING, BUS  
IMPROVEMENTS**



**A WORLD CLASS  
5G NETWORK  
THAT WILL ADD  
£173 BILLION TO  
OUR ECONOMY  
BY 2030**



**£24M INVESTED  
IN 'FUTURE  
TRANSPORT  
ZONES'**

# Supporting our high growth sectors



## CREATIVE & MEDIA

MORE THAN 6,000  
CREATIVE BUSINESSES &  
PRODUCTION COMPANIES

35% OF GLOBAL  
NATURAL HISTORY  
TELEVISION MADE HERE



## AEROSPACE & ADVANCED ENGINEERING

WORTH 2.7BN - LARGEST IN UK

13 OF 15 GLOBAL TOP 100  
AEROSPACE AND DEFENCE  
COMPANIES



## DIGITAL & TECH

THE UK'S MOST  
PRODUCTIVE TECH  
CLUSTER

SETSQUARED - GLOBAL#1  
UNIVERSITY INCUBATOR

# Building our skills pipeline



**£16 MILLION  
PER ANNUM IN  
ADULT  
EDUCATION -  
10,000+  
LEARNERS**



**A NEW REGIONAL  
JOBS, CAREERS AND  
TRAINING SUPPORT  
SERVICE**

**TO HELP 3,000 PEOPLE  
EVERY YEAR**

**skills  
CONNECT**

**BOOTCAMPS**

**16 WEEK EMPLOYER  
RESPONSIVE TRAINING**

**IN GREEN SKILLS,  
CONSTRUCTION,  
LOGISTICS, DIGITAL**

# Tackling the climate & ecological emergency



**£50M GREEN RECOVERY FUND INCLUDING RETROFIT ACCELERATOR**



**GREEN BUSINESS GRANTS AND CARBON SURVEYS**

**HOST SOUTH WEST NET ZERO HUB**

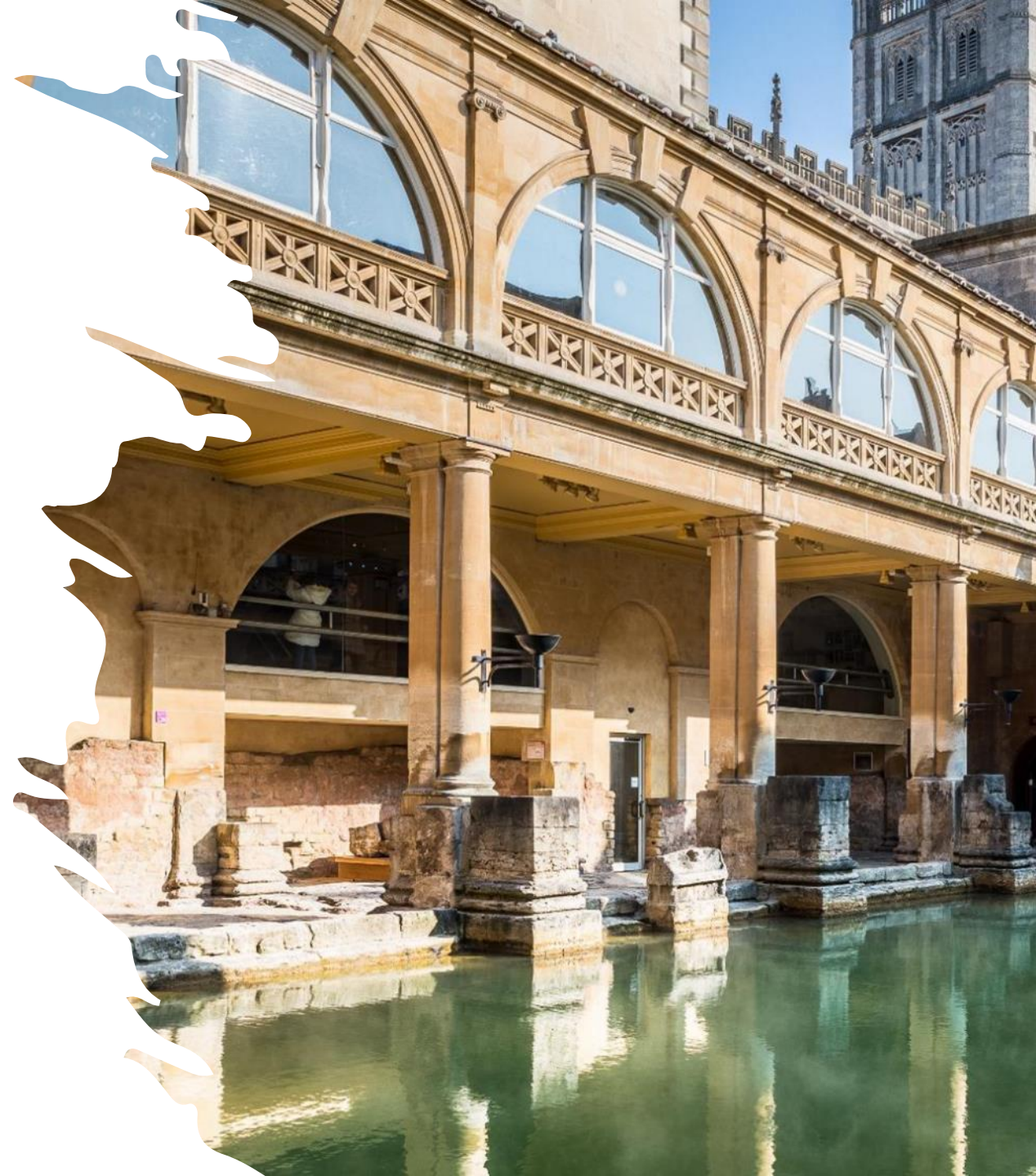


**INVESTMENT IN RENEWABLE ENERGY CAPACITY**

**ONSHORE WIND TURBINES, GREEN HYDROGEN ACCELERATOR**

# Next steps for devolution

- Major investment already leveraged as a result of devolution - a further £2bn
- Focus now on delivering major programmes, scaling the organisation
- Refresh Regional Economic Strategy to inform our priorities
- Work with M10 (Combined Authorities) on new devolution deals - following West Midlands and Greater Manchester
- Ensure integration of LEP and continued business voice to inform our work



# The West of England's boom

**Andrew Carter**

Chief Executive | **Centre for Cities**

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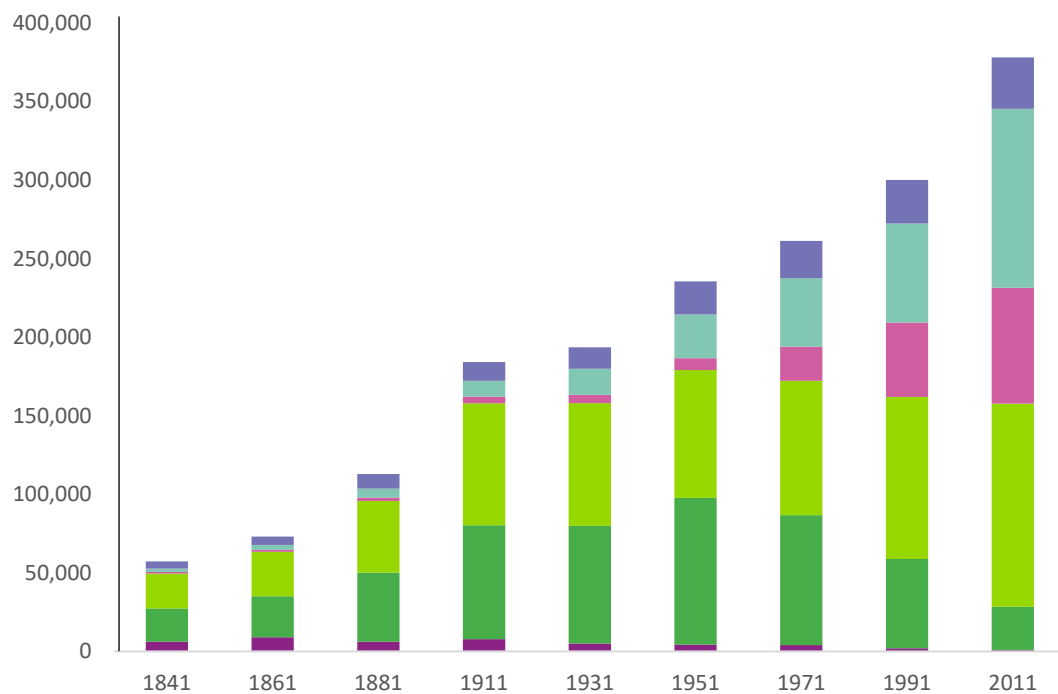
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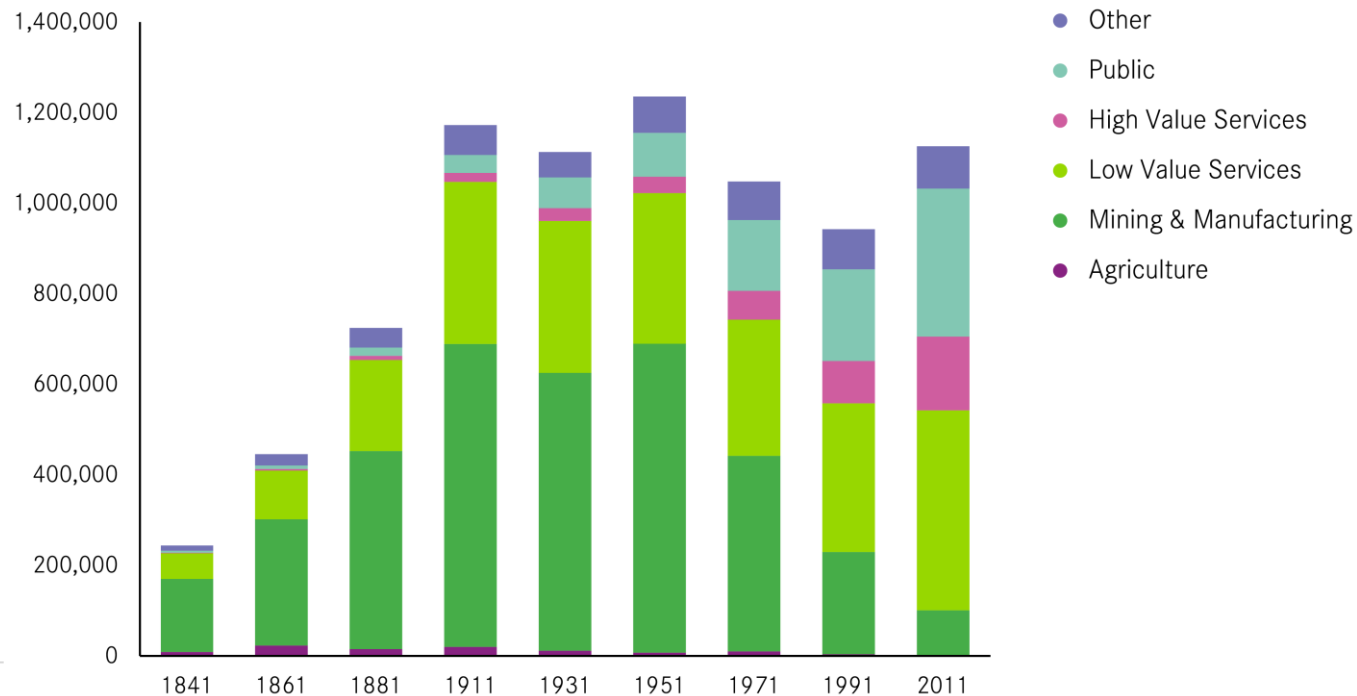


# Bristol's story through the 20<sup>th</sup> century is one of growth

## Bristol

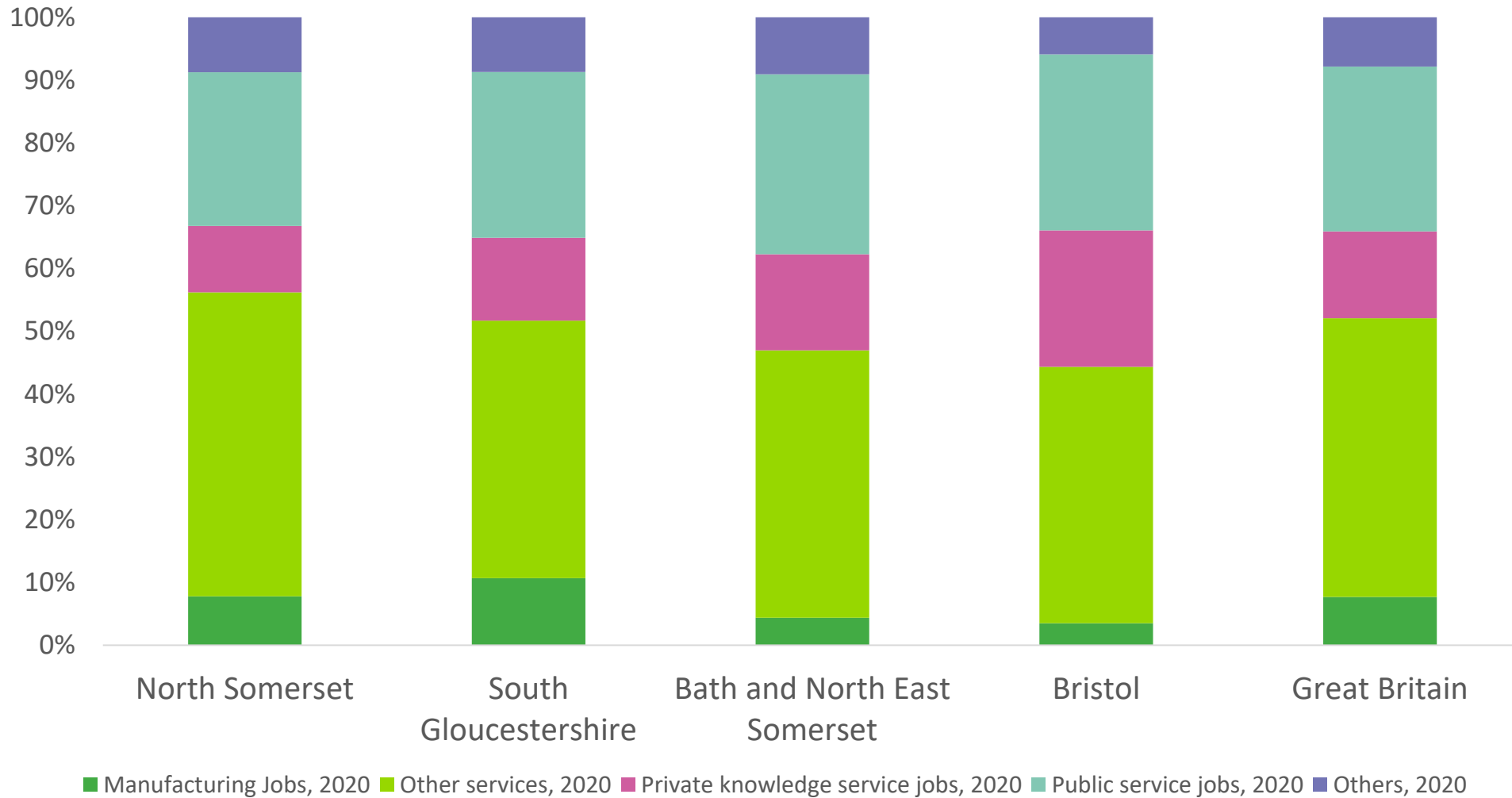


## Manchester



# This has created a high knowledge economy in Bristol

Share of all jobs, 2020 (%)





# The result is that wages are above the national average

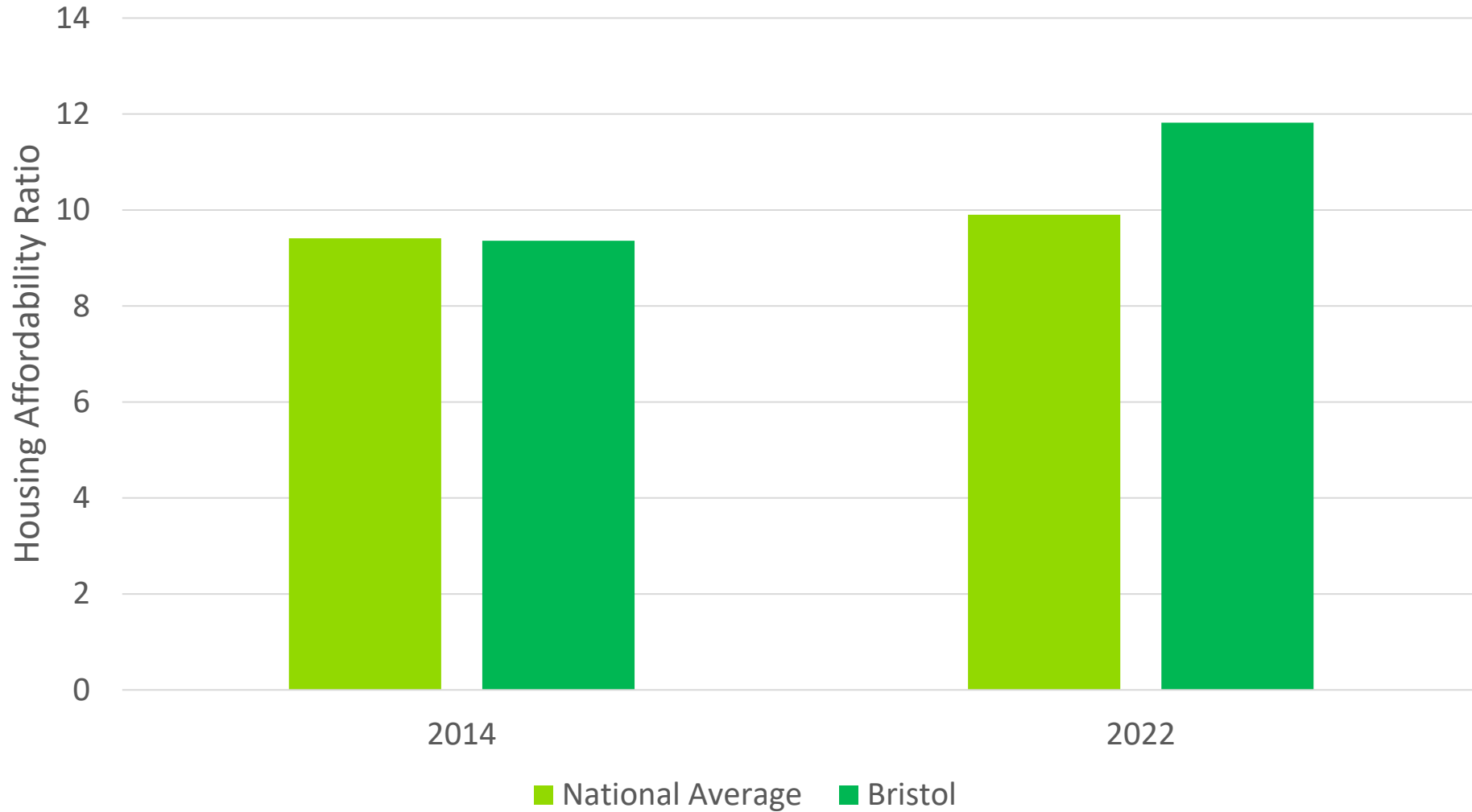
Workplace wages, 2019 (£)



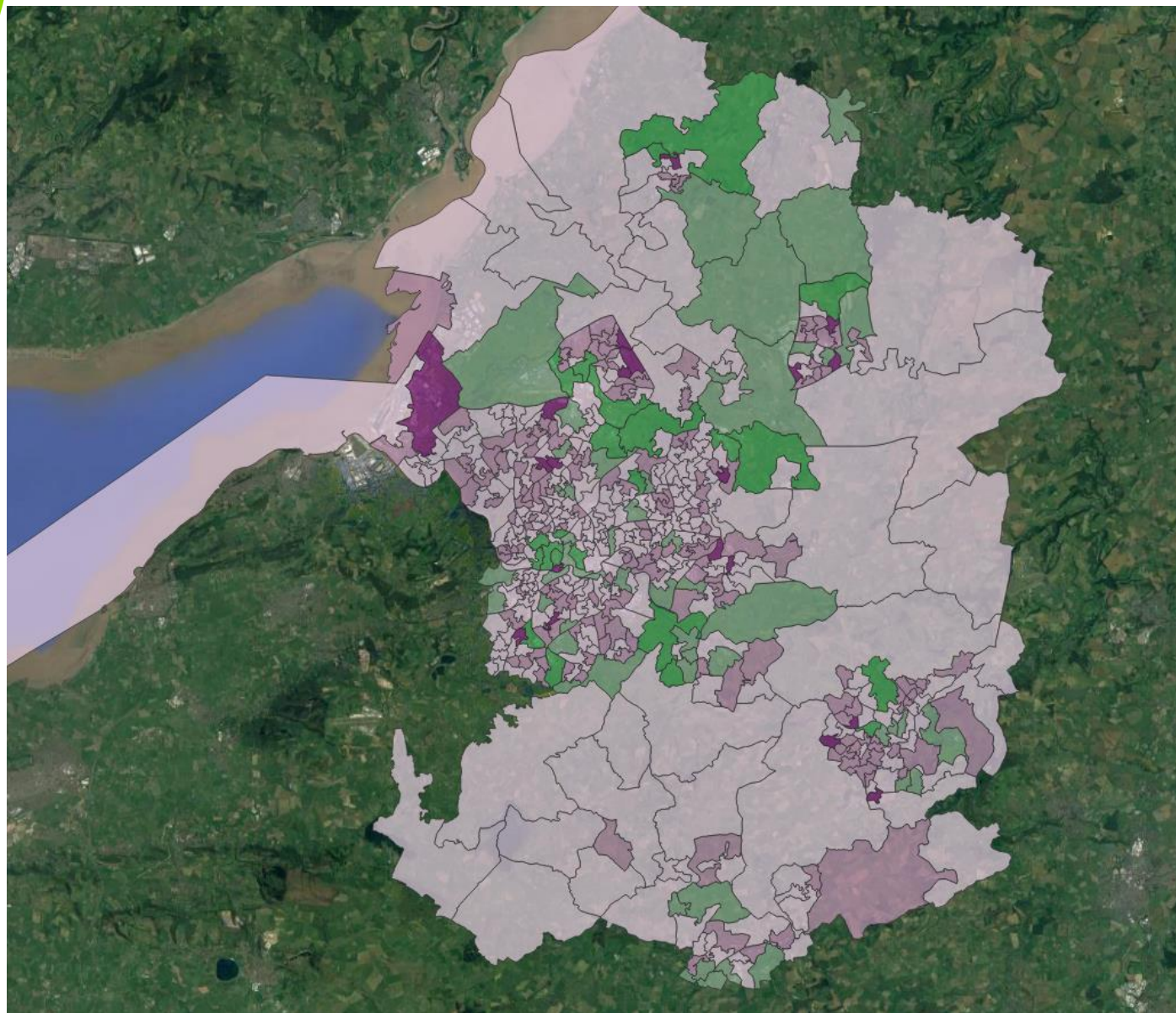


# Growth brings with it costs

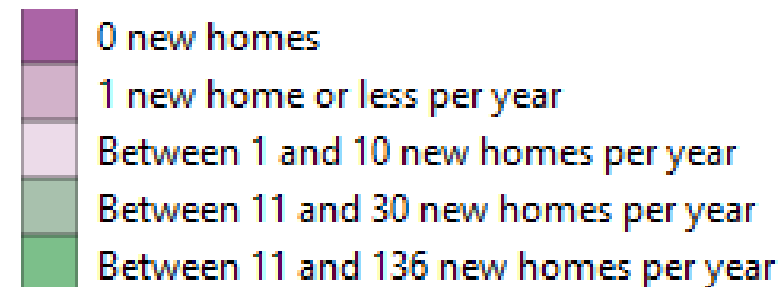
## House prices relative to average incomes



## But most of WECA is building very little housing



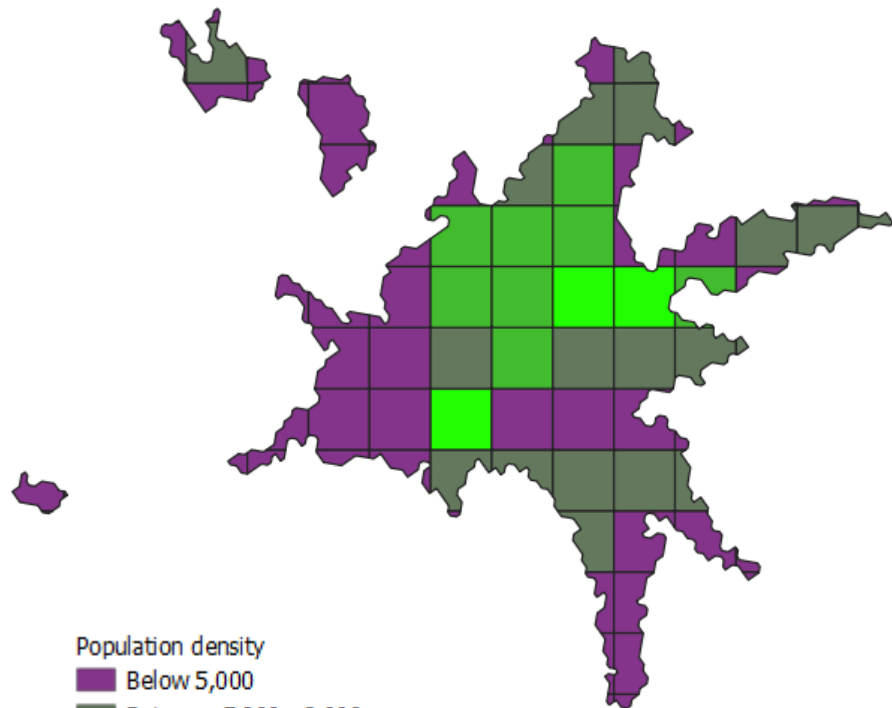
Number of homes built by neighbourhood (LSOA), from 2011 to 2023



# And public transport is smaller + weaker than some of its competitors

## WECA + North Somerset:

Population: 1.2m



Population density

Below 5,000

Between 5,000 - 8,000

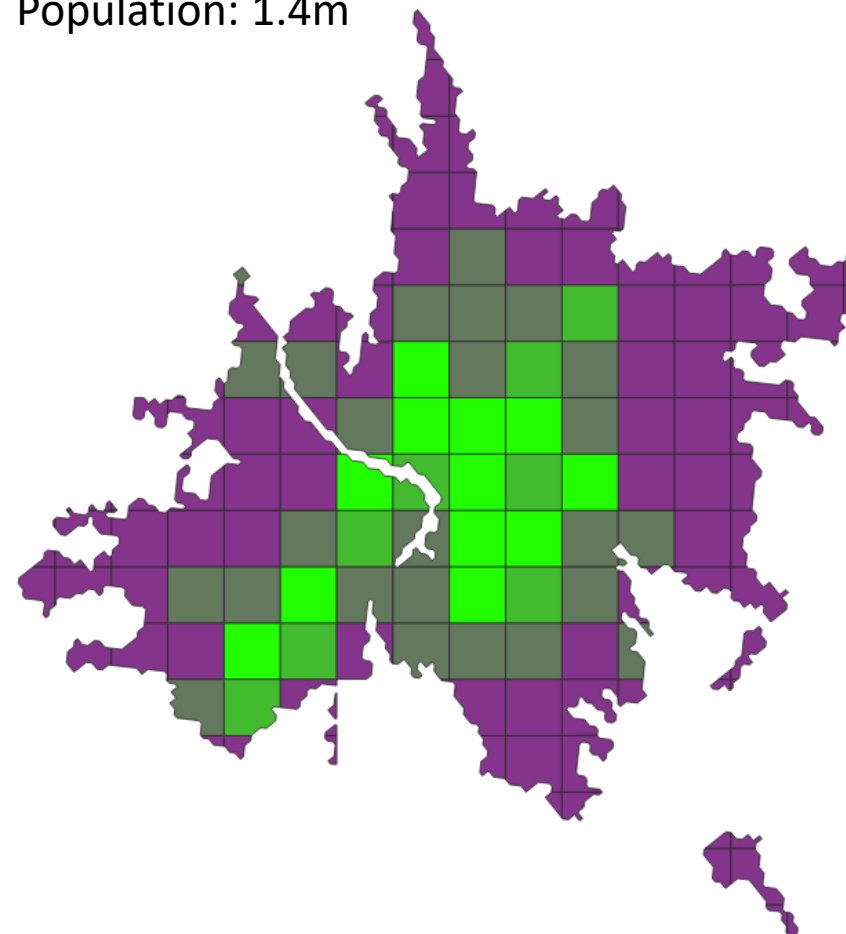
Between 8,000 - 10,000

Above 10,000

Effective population in 30 minutes of the city centre by public transport: **362k**

## Greater Toulouse

Population: 1.4m



Effective population in 30m of the city centre by public transport: **522k**



## What needs to be done now...

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West of England's challenge is not to get growth, but to **manage the costs** of it.

- There is demand to live in and around the West of England area. Supply must keep ahead of this to ease the affordability crisis
- Location of this housing is important, not just the quantity
- Linking improved transport with greater density of development

# In conversation with Mayor Marvin Rees

**Mayor of Bristol**

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# Panel Discussion

**Richard Bonner** | Chair, **West of England LEP**

**Dr Joanna Dally** | Strategic Partnerships Director, **National Composites Centre**

**Evelyn Welch** | Vice-Chancellor, **University of Bristol**

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# Keynote

**John Godfrey**

Director of Levelling Up | **Legal & General**

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# Thank you for attending

Take the post-event survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WHML5QG>



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