Much has improved over time - with better employment, safety, health outcomes, access to services, protected green spaces, and growing community assets. However, significant challenges remain. We experience higher levels of deprivation than in Bristol overall - around poverty, health inequality, education, and employment. These realities shape our priorities.

Residents tell us that belonging comes through relationships, welcoming spaces and local identity. Many feel positive change has happened, but concerns remain around litter, development pressures, youth provision, and community safety.

Our strategy has been developed through community outreach, evidence, and local insight.  It sets a clear direction but remains flexible to changing needs and opportunities. It responds to a fast-changing world shaped by climate change, economic uncertainty, social isolation, political change, and rapid technological shifts. Our ambition is to create a thriving, connected, and inclusive Southmead where everyone can realise their potential.