

A programme for  
change



**CORNWALL**  
CONSERVATIVES

# Foreword

The Cornish are a proud people and with good reason. The rich history, geographic marvel and political power of their region is almost unparalleled within England; and it is right and proper that after decades of broken promises, the people of Cornwall have been awarded a Senedh to represent them and their interests effectively.

This election is likely to be a straight fight between the Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats. In this document, we hope to persuade you of the case for returning a Conservative majority in the new Cornish Assembly, allowing us to implement our vision for Cornwall and the wider south west.

Voting Conservative sends a clear message to the Westminster government that Cornwall will not tolerate its continued indiscretions. It also puts in control of Cornish fortunes a party manifestly committed to the freedom of the individual and the responsibility of the same.

# Education

The new Assembly will have control over education within Cornwall. A conservative Executive will:

- Allow and encourage the creation of new grammar schools, supporting academic excellence.
- Fight for government funding for the Combined Universities in Cornwall association.
- Introduce Technical A Levels to provide a rigorous vocational alternative to traditional sixth form education.
- Empower teachers and parents by mandating the conversion of all schools to academy status by 2021.
- Introduce more generous student loans in Cornwall, requiring repayment only once an individual earns more than the national average salary.

# Tourism

A Conservative Executive will:

- Create a government-backed tourism board to promote visits to Cornwall.
- Invest in critical infrastructure, particularly roads, and lobby for better transport links between Cornwall and the rest of the UK.
- Support the restoration of historic monuments, and lobby for cuts to the beer duty in order to support the historic Cornwall pub trade.
- Introduce a city tax in Cornwall's major settlements, providing funding for essential development and investment.
- Seek to promote Cornwall across the world, including Cornish business, with a new Cornwall Trade Agency.
- Protect and promote free access to important heritage sites.
- Take steps to promote learning of the Cornish language.

# Rural communities

A Conservative Executive will:

- Protect the greenbelt.
- Lobby for an in/out referendum on Britain's membership of the EU, recognising the toll of the common fisheries policy on Cornish fishing communities.
- Fund the rollout of fast broadband connections across Cornwall.
- Lobby for improved public transport facilities across the south-west of England.
- Establish a Cornish Forestry Commission to protect our natural environment.
- Protect rural Cornish settlements, the inhabitants of which often rely upon 4-wheel-drive vehicles, from punitive carbon and emissions taxes.
- Fully fund an ambitious programme of pothole repairs across the region.

# Health & wellbeing

A Conservative Executive will:

- Launch a new programme of roving GPs to provide regular medical appointments for poorly connected communities.
- Lobby for an “Access to Cash” bill in Parliament, creating a “mobile banker of last resort” to provide essential banking services to rural communities.
- Seek to promote vaping as a safer alternative to smoking and as a cessation aid.
- Attract investment and medical research.
- Trial a new system of penalty charges for missed medical appointments, relieving pressure on overstretched services.



