

“the case for Cornwall”

#standupforcornwall





We seek your support for the **Cornwall Deal** – a package of bold measures which support Cornwall Council's new strategy to create a **prosperous Cornwall** that is more resilient and resourceful.

We need to be able to make our own decisions. Working with Central Government and with the commitment of one and all, we believe we can decide in Cornwall how we spend our money and deliver services to the people who live and work here. Cornwall has a proud record of standing up and fighting for what it believes in and we are determined to take advantage of this moment and shape our own future.

Our Strategy provides a clear route to improving the quality of life in Cornwall. We have the ambition, we have the skills, we have the determination and the ability.

we have the ambition

#standupforcornwall

We want to work with Government to unlock Cornwall's potential, improve the economy and be less reliant on funding from Europe and **we are seeking the commitment of all political parties to fulfil their promise to deliver greater devolution and match our ambition and commit to agreeing a Cornwall Deal in 2015.**

These are exciting times, we must seize the opportunity and forge a new settlement between Cornwall and the Government which makes us both stronger. ”

John Pollard, Leader of Cornwall Council

“ I am convinced that if we have more local discretion - more decisions made and money spent at the local level - we’ll get better outcomes.”

David Cameron 2009

“ If ever there was a time to push for action on decentralisation, it’s right now”

Nick Clegg 2014

“ Centralisation has for too long held back our regions from being able to deliver a coherent vision and plan for future economic success”

Ed Miliband 2014



ambition



→ This moment is a vital one for the future of Cornwall. We have long campaigned for Cornwall to have greater autonomy from the UK Government.

We believe that Cornwall has demonstrated that it is ready to fulfil that ambition.

The time is right on many levels.

Firstly, the Government has signalled a clear commitment to devolution supported by a groundswell of academic and popular opinion.

Secondly, the status quo is not an option - doing things differently is an imperative. Cornwall faces unprecedented financial challenges with the need to save £196m over the next four years. We accept that no magic wand will restore public spending to previous levels. We are already working with partners to adapt and innovate so that public spending is as efficient as present constraints allow.

Our devolution proposals are designed to ease those constraints.



**we are ready,
willing and able**



“ We understand Cornwall, how it works, our challenges and our opportunities. ”

Thirdly, our peripherality and distance from London means that Cornwall needs to be more self-sufficient with new models of delivery, funding and administration.

A devolution deal can deliver a more self-sufficient and sustainable Cornwall – a prosperous place that is resilient and resourceful, and less dependent on Government and European Union funding.

Cornwall provides the opportunity to develop a devolution deal which will provide a blueprint for other areas. We want to work with Government to develop a governance model which will strengthen local accountability, ensure democratic decision

making and provide greater transparency to reconnect communities with public services.

This is no short term fix. We are serious about a different approach to economic growth and social strength. We understand Cornwall, how it works, our challenges and our opportunities. We understand the interdependencies which impact on our economy, affect our people and shape our environment.

This understanding has shaped our proposals and is why we are eager to secure a devolution deal for Cornwall.



ONE Council

ONE Functional economic area

ONE Clinical Commissioning Group

ONE Local Enterprise Partnership

ONE Health and Wellbeing Board

ONE Local Nature Partnership

ONE Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Board

ONE Clear identity and sense of place

a simple and defined geography



➔ **Cornwall Council is the largest rural unitary authority in the country, serving a population of just over half a million.**

Cornwall has a strong identity and the benefit of a straightforward, single geography with the majority of our key public sector partners focused exclusively on serving the people of Cornwall.

Crucially, Cornwall functions as a single economic entity which negates the need to establish a Combined Authority as the vehicle for devolution.



1999

Objective One programme of £350m EU funding to improve prosperity following recognition of Cornwall as a single economic area

2007

European Regional Development Fund Convergence funding awarded to Cornwall

2009

Cornwall as one of five councils selected by the Government to move from the two tier structure to a single purpose, unitary council

2010

Cornwall Council established creating one of the largest rural unitary councils in the country

Four year Medium Term Financial Strategy agreed to save £170m as a result of the 30% reduction in funding

Wave hub at Hayle fully connected to cement Cornwall's reputation for innovation in marine energy technology

Roll out of Superfast Broadband to make Cornwall one of the best connected regions in the world

2011

Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership established, reflecting our status as a functional economic area

2014

Ratification of Cornish language under European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages

Transformation Challenge Award funding granted to integrate 'blue light' services within a new Community Fire Station

Four year Public Service Obligation for Newquay Airport confirmed by the Government

Government agreement for **Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership Growth Deal**

Council secures £10million to improve sea links between Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly

Recognition of the **Cornish as a national minority**

Council secures **£146.6m rail investment**

Cornwall held up as leading the way on the Localism Act by the Government

Selected for the Government's **One Public Estate programme**

Recent history supports the case for devolution

This timeline shows a number of the key decisions and achievements that provide the foundations for greater devolution to Cornwall and make our case all the more compelling...

2012

Cornwall named by the Government as one of three 'can do councils'

Enterprise Zone status awarded to create an Aerohub at Newquay Cornwall Airport

2013

Cornwall Health and Wellbeing (shadow) Board established – one of only a handful nationally

Awarded Pioneer status for our plans to join up health and social care services – one of only 14 areas selected across England

Selected by Government as a one of the **country's first new Local Nature Partnerships**

Integrated Territorial Investment status agreed by Government to enable Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly to use EU funding more flexibly

Government go ahead for Cornwall Council to carry out much needed **improvements to the A30** on behalf of the Highways Agency

Four year strategy, business plan and budget set to protect essential services for people in Cornwall within reduced levels of funding

Council secures £1m from the Government's Transformation Challenge Award to work with the **voluntary and community sector** to improve the lives of local people



➔ **Cornwall's geography and political infrastructure provide a strong bedrock for devolution.** Our unitary status sets us apart from other areas and provides strong, visible and democratic governance.

The visibility of the organisation creates a strong sense of accountability.

Cornwall's coherent public sector structure lends itself to integration both in terms of service delivery and co-location - public sector leaders already have a proven track record of working effectively together.

strong and visible governance

“ ...many of the increased powers and freedoms that we are seeking will allow us to work with our partners to empower local communities to address their needs ”

We are already **working closely with Cornwall's town and parish councils** to ensure that our services are devolved to enable greater local control and accountability where this provides the best outcomes for communities. **Cornwall has a vibrant community and voluntary sector** which has a growing role to play in the delivery of public services.

Cornwall is recognised as a place where 'localism' is flourishing, with a dedicated team working with communities to devolve public assets, develop neighbourhood plans and influence local service delivery.

We are committed to the idea of double devolution; many of the increased powers and freedoms that we are seeking will allow us to work with partners to empower local communities to address their needs.



Whilst our defined geography provides a natural functional economic area and a basis for clear governance, in no way do we seek to isolate ourselves from the rest of the UK.

We are already working with partners beyond Cornwall and will continue to do so when it is in our best interests to do so.

Cornwall's natural resources and growing reputation for new technology in sectors such as construction, energy, manufacturing and processing gives us a **unique opportunity** to marry the two and share that knowledge with other local authorities, LEPs and academic institutions to develop partnerships based on opportunity and not just the coincidence of geography.

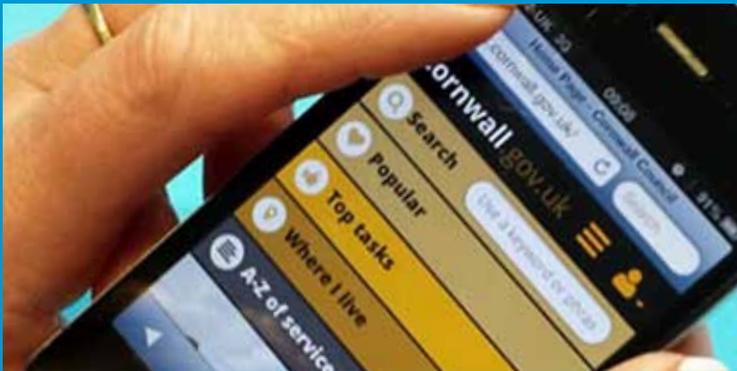


➔ **We have a strong and proven track record of strong financial management;** a record of un-qualified statements of accounts and audit opinions; the highest level of audit approval for our accounting policies, estimates and judgements; and an AA+ credit rating.

We have demonstrated a responsible and planned approach to reductions in government funding with a robust four year Budget and Business Plan.

This had led to significant transformational change across the organisation delivering £170m in savings over the last four years, with the vast majority of this coming from efficiencies and management savings to minimise actual service cuts.

robust financial and risk management



With a reputation as a **confident and resourceful Council** we look forward to working with the next Government to deliver **sustainable solutions to overcome both current and future challenges** that can be replicated elsewhere in the country.



➔ **Not only is Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly already a defined functional economic area, it also has a distinct identity and heritage** which the Government intends to recognise under the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

This will give the Cornish parity with the Welsh, Irish and Scottish; parts of the UK that already benefit from devolved administrations.

Our sense of place and belonging is evidenced through high levels of community engagement – Cornwall compares favourably with other parts of the country in terms of electoral turnout and rates of volunteering.



a strong sense of place and identity

We already have **an excellent track record of working in partnership** with the Government on a range of innovative and cost effective transport solutions. These are the key building blocks towards achieving greater prosperity. The same level of creativity and **joint working** with the Government that will result in the **dualling pinch points on the A30** and **upgrading the rail network** over the next few years can be applied to a host of other areas.



income



➔ Working with our partners, the Council has recently agreed a **long term Strategy that provides a clear direction** for the organisation to follow, with eight ambitious aims that we will pursue over the coming years to create a more sustainable Cornwall.

Cornwall is faced with four fundamental challenges: our population is changing and growing; our economy is still underperforming in some areas; our geography and settlement pattern places strain on the public purse; and the cost of living is increasing inequality.

Our Strategy aims to address these issues by focusing on the areas that are holding Cornwall back, low wages levels for example, by capitalising on the areas where Cornwall is best placed to excel, such as the development of renewable energy and technologies.

we understand what Cornwall needs



“ ...spearheading social and economic change as well as protecting and supporting the most vulnerable. ”

The Strategy sets out our commitment to championing Cornwall with elected members working with partners and communities to improve local wellbeing; being ambitious for Cornwall, spearheading social and economic change as well as protecting and supporting the most vulnerable; and crucially, creating a leaner, more resourceful organisation that delivers essential services in the most efficient and effective way.

We are developing a series of devolution proposals that are not only **critical to Cornwall's future** but will also allow us to make a greater contribution to the **success** of the next Government. These are outlined over the following pages. →



➔ **Improving Cornwall's connectivity is crucial** – road, rail, air, sea and digital links are the arteries of our economy. Our ports, harbours, airport and investment in broadband infrastructure are key components of our economic vision of Cornwall as an outward-facing, accessible and modern place to do business.

Our natural resources and geology give us **amazing opportunities** to lead on the development and deployment of renewable technology including wind, wave and geothermal power.

Cornwall's population is amongst the fastest growing areas in the UK. There is increasing pressure on care and support services requiring a **new delivery model** for health and social care.

Improving skill levels and training opportunities is **vital**. Although we have seen improvements, **over a fifth** of the economically active population have no qualifications.

In some neighbourhoods over a quarter of the working age population are claiming out of work benefits. These areas suffer from **high levels of worklessness, low educational achievement and lower life expectancy** which the Council and partners are determined to address.

challenges and opportunities



Providing **affordable and decent housing** is a key priority given the gulf between average property values and earnings; this is fuelled by competing uses such as demand for holiday and second homes. Despite recent growth in Cornwall's economy we are still beset by low earnings on one side and high house prices, high levels of fuel poverty, the highest water bills in the UK, and high transport costs on the other.

Stimulating private sector investment is a key priority. Cornwall has many great businesses but many others who have yet to realise their full potential. Affording Cornwall greater powers and freedoms will help us reduce worklessness and unemployment, improve productivity and build on our recent levels of growth – **this is good for Cornwall and good for the Government.**

We've shown what we can achieve when conditions are right. We need further empowerment to translate that ability into improving productivity, tackling low wages and being creative about using digital communications to maximise markets and links.

Between 2014 and 2020 over £1 billion of public and private sector funding will be invested in Cornwall's economy.

It is in the interests of the Government to ensure this growth is **sustainable** and tackles inequality.



A Cornwall deal has the potential to add significant value to this investment and **generate greater returns** for the Government by **increasing tax yields and reducing the cost of the welfare state.**



➔ **Connectivity is critical to Cornwall.** Both within our predominantly rural county, where 70% of people live outside of main settlements, and with the rest of the UK – a fact that was brought home during the extreme weather events of 2013 when Cornwall’s links with the rest of the country were under severe strain.

Thankfully Cornwall has a growing reputation for bringing forward creative and innovative ideas to transform public sector transport infrastructure – we already have a strong Transport Board, aligned to a highly regarded and successful Local Enterprise Partnership, which provides strong and visible governance. In developing cost effective proposals to dual a renowned bottleneck on the A30, Cornwall’s main trunk road, the Council has demonstrated the ability to take the lead and risk on matters which are the primary responsibility of Government agencies.

public transport and connectivity



Part of our £198m Growth Deal includes innovative proposals to improve Cornwall’s connectivity to the rest of the UK, particularly through significant investment in the rail network including improvements to capacity, signalling, rolling stock and the relocation of the Night Riviera Service to Penzance.

We are already working with the Department for Transport and the Cabinet Office to share our proposals to break the cycle of decline in Cornwall’s bus network. This is based on the £8m that has provisionally been allocated to Cornwall as a part of the Growth Deal but hinges on Cornwall becoming a trial area for a rural area-based franchise model that will set a required standard and service pattern for the bus network.

Our proposals

Enable Cornwall to provide a fully integrated and more effective rural public transport network.

With the support of the Department for Transport and the Cabinet Office, we are confident we can identify a long term approach to delivering bus services in any rural area using existing regulatory frameworks.

Allow Cornwall to create a Better Roads Fund funded by the localisation of 2p in every litre from existing fuel duty.

Cornwall's geography means that our road network is extensive with the Council responsible for repairing and maintaining over 7,303 kilometres of highway from major principal roads to narrow country lanes. With a diminishing budget, the Council is facing insurmountable challenges to keep Cornwall moving safely. Allowing Cornwall to retain 2p per litre from the existing fuel duty will generate approximately £7.5 million a year that would be used to maintain our rural roads.





The global requirement to move to a low carbon world provides a **massive opportunity for Cornwall**. We are already at the **forefront** of emerging low carbon technologies with the potential to go even further.

We have the benefits of high levels of sunshine, high tides, waves and of course westerly winds. As early as 1991, Cornwall was the first location in the UK for a commercial wind farm. It currently has more solar installations than anywhere else in the South West, underpinned by the location of the National Solar Centre and with over 400 miles (644km) of coastline, much of it facing the Atlantic, offers huge potential for wave power.

Cornwall is home to Wave Hub, the largest wave device test facility in the world and our marine energy programme is supported by expertise from Exeter University, Plymouth University and via the Plymouth and Peninsula City Deal. Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly also form part of the South West Marine Energy Park which builds on a blend of offshore renewable energy resource, economic, technical and industrial expertise. Cornwall's geology also makes it an ideal location for deep geothermal energy. Cornwall is the first region in the UK to approve planning permission for deep geothermal plants.

renewable energy

We have the necessary pre-requisites to be world leaders in the development of a fully integrated low carbon economy and support the global potential of the UK industry which is predicted to grow to provide £3bn per annum to the UK economy and employ 19,000 people by 2030, predicated on the basis of industry reaching full commercial maturity in that timeframe and securing a significant export market.



Our proposals

Allow Cornwall to have greater local control over the development of the electrical grid network.

Grid capacity is currently a significant constraint to further decentralised energy generation in Cornwall. We want the Government to provide us with the ability to control grid investment in Cornwall.

Enable Cornwall to unlock the potential of deep geothermal energy.

Cornwall provides the opportunity to be a national pilot for development of the UK's deep geothermal industry. Co-investment from Government would realise the opportunity to access the significant renewable energy that is under our very feet, contributing to the national renewables targets. Two geothermal companies already have planning permission for two sites in Cornwall; both are ready to commence drilling if sufficient funding can be secured.



Cornwall's energy market is already worth £1bn but has the potential to increase dramatically if we can fully realise our geothermal and wave power potential.





With a single and strong Health and Wellbeing Board covering the same operational area as Cornwall Council and NHS Kernow (the Clinical Commissioning Group) we are **best placed to accelerate a new form of integrated health and social care.**

Cornwall is one of 14 councils selected by the Government to ‘**pioneer**’ integration. Progress so far is already attracting significant interest and plaudits through a greater emphasis on prevention and the enhanced involvement of the voluntary sector. The challenge is taking this to scale and quickly in order to address the growing demand and financial pressure on the sector.

The population of Cornwall already contains 31% more residents over the age of 75 than the average for England. This group is going to grow very significantly and very quickly with a 38% increase by 2022.

health and social care



For Cornwall, integrated care means **shaping the whole system** (beyond health and care) around the individual. To achieve this we will use the powers of the Health and Wellbeing Board to commission primary, secondary and social care services in order to provide an oversight of local public funding for health and wellbeing in Cornwall. Our ambitions are, however, stymied by conflicting Government policies, varying NHS and local authority financial and legal legislation and different prescribed systems that hinder joint working.

Our proposals

Commit to working with Cornwall's health and social care community to achieve health and social care integration.

We want to work with Government to develop solutions that can be created in Cornwall and rolled out nationally as a blueprint for others to follow. This means identifying and overcoming the practical barriers to enable a truly person-centred approach where the individual can access the right care, at the right time in the right setting.



→ Low wages represent a **significant challenge** for Cornwall. Average salary levels in Cornwall are **very low**, with only two other local authority areas in England having lower average full time pay. Total workplace gross annual median earnings in 2013 were £17,390 - 79% of the UK average.

In stark contrast house prices are high, partly fuelled by the buoyant second homes market which represents nearly 9% of Cornwall's housing stock overall and exceeds 20% in 47 out of our 211 Parishes. The average cost of housing is 8.4 times the average annual salary (compared to 6.7

nationally) which puts home ownership beyond the reach of many people.

As a result we face significant pressures for affordable homes with an annual need for 2,240 new builds over the next five years. We are aiming to increase the number of affordable homes delivered annually from 739 to 1,200 by 2020 and lead on the development of 500 new homes that could be for sale, private rent or affordable rent.

To enable us to meet local needs, we require more control over the provision of housing in Cornwall through a range of new powers and freedoms.

housing



Our proposals

Allow Cornwall to retain an element of Stamp Duty to reinvest in building more affordable housing.

We want to secure a ten year funding commitment to establish an ambitious affordable and social housing programme, financed in part by retaining a proportion of the increasing amount of Stamp Duty generated from escalating house prices in Cornwall. We want to explore options to retain a share of Stamp Duty revenue to readdress imbalance and disadvantage in the housing market.

Devolve and localise the powers and land holdings of the Homes and Communities Agency.

Localising the powers held by the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) – as is the case in London - would enable Cornwall to ensure a more tailored approach to housing market interventions and make investment decisions at a local level. The opportunity to acquire HCA land would enable us to use our local expertise to manage the assets and maximise the economic development and regeneration opportunities available.



Helping Cornwall maintain a balanced housing market in our most desirable and attractive coastal and rural areas.

An increasing number of Cornwall's towns and villages have more than 1 in 5 dwellings classed as second homes, which are distinct from holiday homes in that they are invariably empty for large periods of the year. We want to work with the Government to develop proposals that would enable local communities to have a greater control over the numbers of second homes to maintain a more balanced housing market.





Cornwall's public sector has an **excellent track record of working together** and making the best use of our collective resources to improve and transform services in Cornwall. With devolved powers and more empowerment from the Government we envisage a far more integrated public service landscape which can deliver efficiencies with local partners and Government agencies and ultimately deliver better services.

We are already working with the Government's One Public Estate Programme to make local decisions about the best use of all public owned property in Cornwall. We would like to apply this approach across other areas.

economy and funding



“ Cornwall has demonstrated that it can be trusted to make the big and difficult decisions and use public money wisely. ”

Our proposals

Devolve delivery of funding and investment streams to Cornwall.

Over the next six years Cornwall will witness a £1bn investment in the economy – the majority of this financial injection (€603m) will come from EU Convergence funding – the largest allocation outside London. Our objective is to exceed the expected GVA growth of Cornwall's economy by an additional £338 million.

Two of the building blocks to achieve that level of growth are already in place; a successful Local Enterprise Partnership, which has been granted Integrated Territorial Investment status to join up funding streams and investment programmes.

But we want to go further. Many areas of the UK and Europe have been granted Intermediary Body (IB) status allowing them to have devolved delivery of this funding - this has worked well in both Wales and Scotland. Urban areas of England (including London) will also get IB status. Granting IB status to Cornwall and Isles of Scilly will allow us to align investment, simplify access for the private sector and increase our jobs created target to 5000, an increase of 10%.



Enable Cornwall to pool and invest capital receipts from the public sector estate.

There are significant opportunities for savings to be made through co-location and asset rationalisation across the public sector. Cornwall Council has a proven track record in this area, having realised significant property dividends of £4m by halving the office estate from 180 buildings to 90 in the last five years, with plans to consolidate further to just 60 offices by the end of 2015. There is huge potential to go further, by working with partners to achieve significant efficiencies and make the very best use of our collective resources. For this to happen we need the Government to devolve all decisions on the management of the public sector estate to a new more accountable and transparent local body.



Commitment from Crown Estates and the Marine Management Organisation to work with Cornwall to support the delivery of renewable energy.

Cornwall would like to explore the implementation of appropriate mechanisms that will encourage cooperation and coordination between Cornwall, Crown Estates and Marine Management Organisation (MMO) in the location, licensing, consenting and deployment of future marine renewable energy within the waters of Cornwall.

Greater local discretion and influence over energy policy.

We want more local discretion built into the national energy policy framework to include more influence over the thresholds, rates and eligibility for electricity subsidy regimes.

More local control over the planning process of large scale energy infrastructure.

Enhancing the Council’s planning powers would enable Cornwall to have greater local control over renewable energy infrastructure and investment.

Enhance Cornwall’s strategic infrastructure powers.

Establishing a Cornwall Infrastructure Board, consisting of Government agencies, such as English Heritage and the Highways Agency, would provide a more visible, transparent and locally accountable governance model. Such a Board would have the powers to unlock and fast-track the major strategic investment which is vital for Cornwall’s economy.

longer term proposals we want to explore

Piloting the first rural earnback model in Cornwall.

We want to work with the Government to develop a mechanism for Cornwall to retain an element of the uplift in tax yields and reduction in welfare payments arising from a significant level of public sector investment in Cornwall’s infrastructure. The reward mechanism would provide an added incentive to grow and sustain Cornwall’s economy,

contributing to the overall prosperity of the UK through increased tax revenue and greater spending power. The ‘earnback’ would also be a direct incentive to reduce worklessness in Cornwall, with the associated reductions in the cost to Government of welfare benefits.

Localise powers to direct skills funding.

Having access to a workforce with the right skills is essential to the economic prosperity of Cornwall. Cornwall's geography and distance from major economic centres presents challenges in recruiting and retaining the workforce and it is therefore critical that we develop local skills to meet Cornwall's future economic needs. As we seek growth in new areas such as renewable technologies and witness a skills gap in growing areas of demand such as adult social care, we need to ensure that skills funding is focused on these areas of future local need and demand. Give Cornwall the opportunity to direct the spend to ensure it has maximum impact.

Align public sector budgets in Cornwall.

Cornwall's public sector has a strong track record of joint working and collaboration. We are already making great progress but we have only scratched the surface. There is a compelling need to accelerate integration to tackle sector wide challenges posed by an aging population, increasing costs and reduced resources. Integration would enable better proactive investment in prevention. We want to explore with Government how we could build on our progress to date to enable Cornwall's public sector to integrate support services, streamline practices, achieve economies of scale and greater purchasing power, and importantly, provide better integrated services to the public.



Enable Cornwall to pilot greater freedoms and control over council tax.

We want the freedom to work with our local communities to establish an appropriate level of council tax without the imposition of a costly referendum which simply further diverts funding from service delivery - our town and parish councils

need the same. We also want the ability to develop localised council tax rules which enable us to target discounts to the most vulnerable, rather than blanket discounts which bear no connection to people's ability to pay.



Allow Cornwall to retain and re-invest a quarter of all VAT generated by our tourism industry.

Cornwall is the UK's favourite holiday region, winning the British Travel Awards for six years in a row, with an estimated 4.4 million staying visitors staying an average of 26 million nights annually. Given the importance of the sector to the UK economy and particular Cornwall's economy, there is a strong argument for Cornwall to retain a quarter of the existing VAT payable to reinvest in the 'tourism product'. Parallels can be drawn with the Government's recent agreement to allow Manchester and Cambridgeshire to retain all their business rates.

Transfer English Heritage powers and resources to enable us to have greater local control over our heritage assets.

Cornwall Council is responsible for the appropriate care of the largest collection of designated sites and structures in the direct ownership of any local authority. Approximately 5% of Cornwall is a World Heritage Site. We want to explore opportunities to increase local powers and resources to address anomalies in defining heritage significance, streamline planning processes and maximise opportunities to integrate heritage into social and economic regeneration.

longer term proposals we want to explore

Develop a strategic flood package to provide Cornwall with flood resilience and as a test bed for rural areas.

Existing funding mechanisms to reduce flood and coastal erosion risks are based upon a model of funding which has limited effectiveness in Cornwall and other rural areas. Despite the high level of flood risk to our towns and villages no flood defence projects in Cornwall have come close to

meeting the criteria to qualify for funding. We want to work with Government to develop a Cornwall Strategic Flood Deal Package to enable strategic investment and assured delivery within the six year Medium Term Plan cycle.

Enable an programme of housing delivery through revitalised use of Urban Development Corporation powers.

Cornwall faces a growing demand for affordable homes to rent, substantially fuelled by high property prices and low wage levels. Over 50% of the current private rented stock fails to meet decent homes standards, despite strong regulatory action and £103m of public subsidy through housing benefit payments. We want to intervene and develop a new model of housing delivery that provides homes with high standards of design, layout, liveability and low energy costs.



Create a more locally accountable blue light service for Cornwall.

Building on our successful programme of integrating blue light services - ambulance, fire and police – at a local level, we want to work with the Government to develop a more visible and accessible governance model that allows local communities to have a greater influence over service delivery.





I want this to be **the start of a conversation** with members, residents, businesses and the political parties that leads to a Cornwall Deal with the next Government in 2015.

A confident Cornwall welcomes willing partners to work with the Council and local communities to **pioneer new approaches** to tackle the national challenges and create more prosperous and self-sufficient communities.

Look to Cornwall to show how the rural areas of the country can **become more resilient and resourceful** by forging a new relationship and settlement with the next Government. ”

#standupforcornwall



I look forward to you contacting me

John Pollard, Leader of Cornwall Council

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www.cornwall.gov.uk