

CHARTER 25

CHARTER 25 HAS A SIMPLE GOAL

TO...

Improve and enrich everyday lived experience for all

Sustain this change

Grow a better future

CHARTER 25 IS A CARE COALITION

To create meaningful change, we need a common approach, a shared purpose that is understandable, which everyone can get behind, and which can generate positive action. We believe in three kinds of critical care:

- 1. Self Care:** policy and practice to promote individual health
- 2. People Care:** policy and practice to promote a healthy society and economy
- 3. Earth Care:** policy and practice to promote a healthy environment

This is the compass for navigating our journey together and engaging everyone in a process of collaborative change.

CHARTER 25 HAS THREE ECONOMIC OBJECTIVES AT THREE GEOGRAPHIC LEVELS

- 1. Local Self-reliance:** make the Island self-sufficient in every way and for every need, to the fullest extent possible, and to ensure that whatever remains is secured on Island terms.
- 2. Regional Agency:** bring the Island actively and influentially into the planning and delivery of a thriving devolved regional Solent economy.
- 3. Global Leverage:** position the Island, using its international Biosphere status, in the global stream of sustainability finance as a highly investable place, a beacon of change and hope.

CHARTER 25 IN SEVEN STATEMENTS

1. Create a **GLOBALLY INVESTABLE ISLAND** and move us out of the spiral of maintained decline.
2. Urgently and resolutely **BUILD THE QUALITY HOMES ISLANDERS NEED.**
3. Make **AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE PUBLIC TRANSPORT** and easy active travel a decisive Island issue.
4. Make the **HEALTH OF ALL ISLANDERS** the baseline measure of success.
5. Establish the Island's **NEW GREEN ECONOMY** that will define the next decade.
6. Act now to reduce Island **CHILD POVERTY** and stem the loss of our **YOUNG PEOPLE.**
7. Build **SOCIAL ENTERPRISE AND SOCIAL SOLIDARITY** at the level of every Island parish.

ISLAND SOVEREIGN WEALTH

AN INVESTMENT IN CHANGE

Charter 25 proposes an **Island Sovereign Wealth Fund**, a way to grow an inclusive community economy in an investable place, one which distributes power and wealth, and which is built on community rights, empowerment, participatory democracy and co-responsibility. **It is about Island people having an equity stake in a regenerative economy** built on strong sustainability principles; one which is low-carbon, high nature-value, open-source, healthy, prosperous, productive and progressive. Community ownership and democratic governance will be cultivated within an ecosystem that creates shared abundance rather than isolated examples of success. The Fund will strengthen the resilience of the communities we share, and nurture business and investment in the enterprises of tomorrow.

ISLAND SOVEREIGN WEALTH WILL FOLLOW FOUR PRINCIPLES

- 1. Building solidarity** between the human and natural world as our only hope on a changing planet.
- 2. Fostering ecological health**, cultural wellbeing, community diversity, and social integrity in policy and procurement, and in democratic decision-making at every level.
- 3. Demonstrating the critical value of locality** and sense of place, and investing at the scale of neighbourhoods, where life and work are most real.
- 4. Championing the respect for future generations** that compels the protection of their life chances today and every day.

TO DELIVER ON ITS COMMITMENTS THE SOVEREIGN WEALTH FUND WILL ...

- 1. Use the power of regional partnership** through our membership of the newly devolved government to secure the fair, proper and permanent settlement that is due to England's largest island in the service of the civil, cultural, political, social, and economic rights of its citizens.
- 2. Bring together a new social enterprise** partnership at the intersection of community building and economic development, combining the Island's public, private, and voluntary sectors, together worth over £3.5 Billion a year, £300 Million every month, refocussing procurement, contracts and supply chains, levies and charges, to generate better local value from the better use of the money already in circulation.
- 3. Deploy the Island's UNESCO World Biosphere status**, with its internationally recognised reserves of natural and cultural capital, to attract new global investment through the burgeoning opportunities presented by Science-Based, Place-Based, and Nature and Climate-Related Investment, Beyond Value Chain Mitigation finance, Green Philanthropy and Just Transition.
- 4. Seek prudential finance**, secured by all of the above, to fund major Island infrastructure renewal, through long affordable loans (Public Works Loans Board, UK Infrastructure Bank) and high-integrity Biosphere Bonds.

TWENTY-FIVE POLICIES FOR CHANGE

- 1. Use our UNESCO Biosphere status to build new economic focus and opportunity**, positioning the Island as a prime location for international investment in sustainable development, regenerative land use, ecological design, and creative industry.
- 2. Re-evaluate the whole of the Island's privatised public transport system**, bus, rail, ferry, the roads PFI, and the emerging micromobility sector. Demand dependable, affordable, community-focussed travel, including all non-vehicular options.
- 3. Reverse the disastrous haemorrhaging of our young population from the Island**, by actively building new reasons to stay, reasons to return, reasons to relocate, sustaining our vitality, our economy, our future.
- 4. Invest in our teachers and school workforce**, our colleges and learning centres, reinstating the respect, support, and partnership that they deserve as the foundations of the Island's future.
- 5. Act immediately to confront the collapse in the health and wellbeing of our young people**, the chain reaction of escalating complex unmet needs and exploitation risks that has been ignored and denied.

6. **Prioritise cross-disciplinary working** between IWC and the Hampshire and IW Integrated Care System to urgently diagnose and confront the underlying issues that drive widening health inequalities in our communities.
7. **Invest properly in our underfunded Public Health teams** to bring community-centred wellbeing best practice into the heart of our neighbourhoods where it is most needed. Make the health of Islanders, individually and as a community, the measure of success.
8. **Build initiative-taking place-based health alliances** between the NHS Localities, IWC and the town and parish councils that make the combination of local care, urgent and emergency care, planned care, discharge from hospital, and mental health a shared concern for shared action.
9. **Work with the Youth Trust and others to ensure a '3rd Space' for young people** in all communities, creating a social environment distinct from the '1st Space' of home and '2nd Space' of school, college, or workplace.

- 10. Make sure that all young people treated well and paid fairly** in the workplace, including apprentices, by working with the Chamber of Commerce, the Federation of Small Businesses and local business associations to develop effective guidance and support.
- 11. Provide real, effective, and reliable enterprise and lifelong learning support** to younger and older people wanting to explore new economic possibilities in the new Island economy, change direction, or set up businesses of their own.
- 12. Island life is overwhelmingly dependent on frontline and essential workers.** We must remember what Covid taught us; a better, fairer deal starts there.
- 13. Support and strengthen mutual aid and voluntary networks,** the social solidarity projects, and programmes, from free food to community housing, which bring together Island generations in a shared commitment to shaping better places.

- 14. Create a new constitutional agreement with the 33 local councils**, abandoning needless antagonism, obstructive bureaucracy and the lack of ambition that has held back parishes from fully investing their £7M annually to maximum effect.
- 15. Lift the Island off the bottom of the UK monthly wage table**, refuse to accept minimum wage precarity as standard, and build future-focussed economic opportunity which unleashes the latent productive forces embedded in Island life.
- 16. Build rapid-response, high-quality, affordable housing** in the places where it is urgently needed, investing in architectural quality, environmental performance, design excellence, and a planning system that will leave behind the featureless urban sprawl that we have for too long endured.
- 17. Commit to continually reduce the number of children growing up in poverty**, the number of pensioners living in poverty, and the number of households trapped in poverty. Make these the foundational measures of Island success.

- 18. Focus on our high streets, the hearts of our towns and villages**, elevate them from the degraded road junctions that they have been allowed to become and accelerate their revival into living civic centres. Bring together retail and service with good places and spaces to meet, strong physical and digital connectivity, and the presence of groups and organisations that deliver local projects.
- 19. Re-skill our local authorities** so that they can robustly defend the public interest against vandal landlords and property racketeers, using compulsory purchase powers and every level of enforcement action to the full.
- 20. Revitalise the partnership between the council and frontline health sectors** to deliver immediate and sustained action against the spread of poor nutrition, drug and alcohol dependency and suicide. Invest whatever is needed to protect our most vulnerable citizens.
- 21. Invest in growing the Island's rich cultural and creative capital**, both as an essential quality of Island life, and as a driver of enterprise in the new economy that is coming. We must invest in its power to enrich: 1. civic assets, the spaces and places where people can meet and interact; 2. community engagement, the activities that bring people together; 3. connectivity, digital and physical, between people and new opportunities.

- 22. Deliver a new deal for farming**, bringing together ecological and regenerative opportunities to secure the production of food, energy, minerals, and biodiversity, protecting farm infrastructures, building farm revenues, and sustaining the cultural landscape of the Island.
- 23. Commit to Island-wide nature recovery**, the conservation of habitats and species and the extension of the conditions they need to thrive.
- 24. Act urgently and decisively on the impacts of climate change on Island life.** Move beyond the inadequate patching of critical infrastructure to a permanent, structural, and systemic adaptation.
- 25. Develop and discuss the Theory of Transformative Change we need** to shape a better place for all, as citizens, in public conversations and community forums everywhere. Together we can chart a new course and construct the future that the Island truly deserves.