



PDM

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT
PEOPLE FIRST



MANIFESTO HIGHLIGHTS

OUR PLANS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF ALL OUR PEOPLE

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pdmMontserrat.com/manifesto



VOTE



24TH OCT 2024



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After years of neglect from MCAP (with little assistance provided during the worst of the COVID crisis) the PDM is here to deliver relief and recovery to our people and businesses, just like the UK did for their own people.

COST OF LIVING RELIEF

- 1.** Yearly salary increases in line with inflation and the living wage of \$2,485; minimum pension at \$2,485
- 2.** \$24,000 minimum tax-threshold (later to be raised to \$30,000) considering the living wage
- 3.** No more work permit and time extension fees
- 4.** Cut import duties on essential household appliances, electronics and car parts; no duties on construction tools and equipment
- 5.** Lower tax on overtime pay
- 6.** Monthly Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) for both public and private sector employees
- 7.** Youth first-car and homeownership concessions
- 8.** Subsidies for child-care, school uniforms and meal vouchers; free 6th form, including textbooks, and stipends for technical students
- 9.** Non-nationals and UK citizens who have resided in Montserrat for 3 years or more will be granted the same healthcare costs and privileges as citizens
- 10.** \$14 million support funding for businesses, including farmers and fishermen
- 11.** Greater subsidies for farmers and no more duties on essential tools

INFRASTRUCTURE & ENERGY

- 1.** Transform Little Bay into a state-of-the-art city, and develop a modern cruise port, using public-private-people partnerships, kick-starting a thriving tourism industry
- 2.** Launch an ambitious road repair project, aiming to complete key works within 1 year
- 3.** Immediately lower electricity costs through FCDO-funded surcharge subsidies
- 4.** Lower electricity costs in the short to medium term by developing renewable energy infrastructure, making Montserrat more attractive for local and inward investment
- 5.** Rapidly upgrade the Montserrat Utilities Limited (MUL) systems to address water & sewage issues, and reduce electricity disruptions

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- 1.** Reduced duties on building materials
- 2.** Reactivate and access the \$14 million in housing funds offered in the 2019 FCDO CIPREG program
- 3.** Refurbish 100 to 150 houses in Davy Hill, Lookout and T-111 houses built by the government
- 4.** Provide hurricane-resistant housing to evacuees who have been waiting for over two decades as quickly as possible
- 5.** Provide housing incentives to all residents ranging from \$100,000 to \$150,000
- 6.** Double the current housing grant to all residents from \$40,000 to \$80,000
- 7.** 250–300 new affordable homes (we will negotiate to secure an additional \$40 million in home construction funding)
- 8.** Low-interest or government-guaranteed home loans and rent-to-own housing schemes

HEALTHCARE

- 1.** Ensure the New Glendon Hospital is finished within 2 years to be a state-of-the-art facility
- 2.** Upgrade and modernize all healthcare facilities and our Emergency Medical Services
- 3.** Implement regular free health screening programs (diabetes, hypertension, cancer etc.)
- 4.** Create incentives (housing, salary increases, travel allowance etc.) to attract and retain more skilled professionals including specialists
- 5.** Provide ongoing training to our healthcare workers
- 6.** Work with medical professionals to introduce tele-medicine into our healthcare system

AIR & SEA ACCESS

- 1.** Restore Twin Otter services and negotiate for subsidies to lower ticket prices, as advised by FCDO, which will boost business & tourist arrivals
- 2.** Secure a 3–5 year contract with reliable passenger and cargo ferry operators and develop locally owned cargo vessels
- 3.** Commence a research study on sites for a new airport with a 5,000-foot runway suitable for the ATR 72, and 737 or similar jets that can provide direct air access to the US market

MORE JOBS FOR ALL

- 1.** Establish and support the growth of job-creating sectors including Ecotourism, Marine Tourism, Agritourism, Cultural Tourism, Film Production, Luxury Real Estate, Medical and Wellness Tourism, Agro-Processing, Leather Goods Manufacturing, Financial Services, Medical Education and more, potentially generating \$65 million annually and reducing our dependence on UK aid
- 2.** Establish a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Montserrat to stimulate economic growth, create high-paying jobs, and attract both businesses and returning citizens
- 3.** Facilitate investment to develop our yachting sector, including a state-of-the-art yacht marina in the Piper's Pond area, and establish the "Race to Redonda" sailing event.
- 4.** Scale up our sand mining and agriculture through new business support measures
- 5.** Jumpstart our Financial Services Sector

OTHER KEY PLANS

- 1.** Improve teacher's salaries and implement teacher certification & accreditation processes
- 2.** Make major investments to upgrade our school and sports facilities to world-class standards
- 3.** Create wider scholarship access that allows civil servants and our youth to pursue further studies, professional certifications, and skills training.
- 4.** Grow our population from 4,300 to 6,000 in the medium term (5-7 years) and to 10,000 in the long term (10-15 years) through an innovative Population Growth Strategy
- 5.** Launch attractive Diaspora Return Incentives (housing, investment etc.)
- 6.** Launch a properly marketed Residency by Investment Program
- 7.** Strategically negotiate with the UK to secure the level of funding received by other Overseas Territories, to rapidly transform Montserrat

VOTE PDM!
PEOPLE FIRST!
MONTSERRAT FIRST!