

Case for Cornwall



➔ Each year public spending in Cornwall amounts to about £4.3 billion, however the majority of this spending is either undertaken by Central Government or controlled by those with no local choice over how its spent.

We believe that organisations and communities in Cornwall have the greatest understanding of Cornwall's challenges and opportunities and are best placed to make the right decisions about Cornwall's future.

Background

Other parts of the Country have already benefited from greater powers to make decisions that affect areas like public transport, housing and healthcare. The Case for Cornwall sets out the new powers and freedoms we are seeking for Cornwall.

Why Cornwall needs greater local powers

- ➔ Cornwall is facing significant pressure on public service budgets - with powers to control more spending locally, we could make much more efficient use of the resources available.
- ➔ Cornwall suffers long standing economic challenges - increased freedoms would enable us to invest in kick starting Cornwall's local economy.
- ➔ House prices in Cornwall put home ownership beyond the reach of many people – local

powers would allow investment to address the current shortage in affordable housing, high prices and high rents.

- ➔ Our health and care system is facing growing demand and financial pressure – we need to be able to redesign our services to meet these challenges.

What new powers are we asking for?

- ➔ **Housing:** build more affordable housing, taking control of Government land to provide social housing, finding ways to manage the number of second homes.
- ➔ **Transport:** including greater control over bus services, developing a joined up public transport network, using a share of fuel duty to maintain our roads.
- ➔ **Planning, environment and infrastructure:** greater local control of the planning system, more local control over flood defence and protecting historic buildings.
- ➔ **Employment and skills:** local control to direct funding into training people in the right skills for Cornwall's industry.

➔ **Health and social care:** to work with Government to join up health and social care services.

➔ **Energy:** greater control over the development of electrical grid and unlocking potential for geothermal energy.

➔ **Public Sector efficiency:** working with partners to get fairer funding, piloting greater freedoms over council tax; retaining and reinvesting a share of VAT from tourism.

How will this benefit local residents and businesses?

- ➔ More jobs and job opportunities
- ➔ Development of new industries
- ➔ More funding to invest in infrastructure projects and businesses
- ➔ More affordable houses for local people
- ➔ Less reliance on benefits
- ➔ Stronger and more prosperous economy
- ➔ Greater local control over income from council tax and VAT
- ➔ Better health and social care services and links
- ➔ Better road maintenance
- ➔ Emergency services working more closely together
- ➔ Better flood resilience

