



# MANIFESTO 2024

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**Restoring visionary, competent, trustworthy,  
and caring governance to Montserrat**

**VOTE UNITED ALLIANCE**

## **Our Mission**

To create and implement a strategy and roadmap for the sustainable development of Montserrat in which all people will have the opportunity to live wholesome and productive lives based on the principles of universal love, respect, empathy, equity, self-reliance, and creativity.

# **National Development Vision 2025 – 2050 Planning for the next 25 Years**

## **Primary Policies Snapshot**

### **ACCESS**



#### **Short term (0-1 year)**

- Address basic issues impacting air and sea access using local and international expertise, along with private sector collaboration.
- Set affordable airfares and ferry fares annually through consultations and negotiations with operators.

#### **Medium term (1-5 years)**

- Develop and implement strategic plans for upgrading infrastructure to support sustainable and reliable long term air and sea access.
- Revive the Montserrat Development Corporation (MDC) or establish a replacement agency to partner with the private sector for sustainable air and sea access solutions.

#### **Long term (5+ years)**

- Establish permanent, reliable air and sea access infrastructure to ensure seamless connectivity into and out of Montserrat.

# **TOURISM**

## **Residential Tourism**

### **Short term (0-1 year)**

- Engage with potential hotel development partners for a boutique hotel at Little Bay.
- Enhance collaboration with private sector on international promotion of existing short-term stayover facilities (e.g. villas and apartments through Airbnb, VRBO and similar programmes)

### **Medium term (1-5 years)**

- Begin construction of a boutique hotel at Little Bay.
- Establish partnerships with internationally accredited hospitality institutions for the delivery of tourism training programmes.

### **Long term (5+ years)**

- Operate a fully functional 120-room boutique hotel in line with established international standards.



## **Yachting**

### **Short term (0-1 year)**

- Establish mooring buoys in key areas (Old Road, Isles Bay, Little Bay).
- Strategic marketing of Montserrat as a yachting destination.

### **Medium term (1-5 years)**

- Establish infrastructure to support refuelling and enhance other services to attract increased yachting visitors to the island.
- Foster an economic environment that allows for increased earnings for local service providers (taxi operators, restaurants, tour operators).

## Long term (5+ years)

- Development of a modern marina to enhance yachting facilities to establish Montserrat as a premier yachting destination.

## Sports Tourism

### Short term (0-1 year)

- Upgrade existing sports facilities.
- Invite overseas sports teams for competitive and training purposes.

### Medium term (1-5 years)

- Secure collegiate athletic scholarships and professional sporting opportunities for local youth.
- Support private sector to participate in the emerging success of a sports tourism industry.

### Long term (5+ years)

- Development and promotion of Montserrat as a premier sports tourism destination.



## Development of Tourism Sites and Trails

### Short term (0-1 year)

- Provide funding and support to enhance trails and tourism sites.

### Medium term (1-5 years)

- Develop and market the 'Buried City' of Plymouth and other attractions.

### Long term (5+ years)

- Establish recreational amenities like zip lines, viewing towers, and other tourist attractions.

## **BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT**

### **Short term (0-1 year)**

- Encourage private sector development through local business initiatives and incentives.
- Review and align tax regimes with global standards.
- Support sand mining operators for the continued development of their business and export potential.

### **Medium term (1-5 years)**

- Re-establish the Montserrat Development Corporation or a similar agency to drive FDI promotion.
- Support micro enterprises with subsidised loans and training.

### **Long term (5+ years)**

- Develop and promote Montserrat as a hub for foreign direct investment and innovation.



## **COST OF LIVING**

### **Short term (0-1 year)**

- Initiate discussions with Customs and Revenue Services to reduce the cost of basic goods.

### **Medium term (1-5 years)**

- Implement measures to sustainably lower consumer prices on basic goods.

### **Long term (5+ years)**

- Ongoing re-evaluation of measures to ensure an affordable cost of living for all residents.

## EDUCATION

### Short term (0-1 year)

- Reintroduce technical and vocational training programmes and opportunities.
- Provide free education from nursery to community college.

### Medium term (1-5 years)

- Establish a national scholarship programme.
- Upgrade classrooms to better facilitate distance-teaching.
- Enhance education delivery to support children with special needs.

### Long term (5+ years)

- Strategic review of Montserrat Community College to ensure the institution meets the evolving needs of the island and its population.



# AGRICULTURE

## Short term (0-1 years)

- Identify factors affecting food production and implement strategies to bolster this sector.
- Provide subsidised loans and other support for local farmers.

## Medium term (1-5 years)

- Introduce modern farming technologies (e.g. hydroponics and greenhouses) with supporting training opportunities.

## Long term (5+ years)

- Develop a self-sufficient agricultural sector with export capabilities.



## **HEALTHCARE**

### **Short term (0-1 year)**

- Modernise healthcare and wellness legislation and policies in line with international standards.
- Establish emergency management protocols and guidelines in line with international standards.
- Re-establish specialist medical services and visiting medical programmes.

### **Medium term (1-5 years)**

- Ensure the completion of a fully equipped and staffed general hospital.
- Establish a cancer screening registry.
- Modernise the Public Health Department.

### **Long term (5+ years)**

- Ensure affordable and worldclass healthcare is accessible for all residents.

## **HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION**

### **Short term (0-1 year)**

- Remove duties on building materials.
- Review government's housing policy to ensure affordable housing is accessible for all residents.
- Identify owners of abandoned residential properties that have fallen into disrepair to develop partnership for refurbishing these properties to add to the island's housing stock.

### **Medium term (1-5 years)**

- Refurbish government's housing stock.
- Implement revenue-sharing partnership with property owners to refurbish abandoned residential properties and add them to the island's available housing stock.

### **Long term (5+ years)**

- Ensure affordable housing remains accessible for all residents.



## **POPULATION RETENTION AND GROWTH**

### **Short term (0-1 year)**

- Implement measures to help curb net-youth migration.

### **Medium term (1-5 years)**

- Comprehensive population retention and growth strategy.

### **Long term (5+ years)**

- Promote family reunification and ensure non-discriminatory immigration policies.

## **ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE**

### **Short term (0-1 year)**

- Targeted road repairs and upgrades.
- Beautify main road verges with private sector support.

### **Medium term (1-5 years)**

- Implement detailed infrastructure development plans.
- Maintain road verge beautification programme.

### **Long term (5+ years)**

- Ongoing improvement to road infrastructure.
- Enhance road verge beautification programme.

## **ENERGY SECTOR**

### **Short term (0-1 year)**

- Support Montserrat Utilities Ltd. to provide reliable electricity supply.
- Develop and implement a comprehensive energy development strategy with an immediate focus on developing geothermal wells.

### **Medium term (1-5 years)**

- Utilise geothermal well water for spa facilities and treatments.

### **Long term (5+ years)**

- Ensure reliable and renewable energy supply including geothermal and other green technologies.

## **SOCIAL SERVICES**

### **Short term (0-1 year)**

- Expand and enhance elderly care programmes at home and at community centres.
- Develop and implement detailed social services development plans.

### **Medium term (1-5 years)**

- Collaborate with organisations for comprehensive elderly care.

### **Long term (5+ years)**

- Establish a robust social services network.

## **GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION**

### **Short term (0-1 year)**

- Enhance professionalism and responsiveness in government services.
- Re-establish high standards in international relations, including OECS, CARICOM and UK Government.

### **Medium term (1-5 years)**

- Develop and implement detailed governance improvement plans.
- Advance delivery of e-government services.

### **Long term (5+ years)**

- Maintain high standards in international relations, including OECS, CARICOM and UK Government.



## **Existing Gaps Summary:**

1. Financial Planning: Detailed budgets and funding strategies are needed across all sections.
2. Implementation Plans: Clear execution plans with responsible parties, timelines, and benchmarks.
3. Risk Management: Comprehensive strategies to mitigate potential risks and challenges.
4. Stakeholder Engagement: Detailed plans for community involvement and feedback.
5. Environmental Sustainability: Comprehensive environmental policies addressing long-term impacts.
6. Performance Metrics: Specific metrics and evaluation frameworks to measure success and progress.

**The United Alliance manifesto outlines a vision for Montserrat's development. However, to successfully take Montserrat forward will require more detailed financial planning, implementation strategies, risk management, stakeholder engagement, environmental sustainability and performance metrics to ensure successful execution and measurable outcomes.**



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X	<b>HIXON, Dwayne</b>	
X	<b>KIRNON, George</b>	
X	<b>MEADE, Reuben T</b>	
X	<b>OSBORNE, John</b>	
X	<b>SKERRITT, Jenzil</b>	
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