



DLP



**BARRBADOS
FIRST**

THE PEOPLE'S CONTRACT



2026 MANIFESTO

**VOTE FOR
PROGRESS**

VOTE

DLP

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MESSAGE FROM THE LEADER

Dear Barbadians,

Our country stands at a crossroads. Across Barbados, people are working hard, playing by the rules, and still finding it harder to get ahead. **While those at the top boast of international accolades, the reality in our gaps is a world apart.** Families feel stretched to the breaking point by taxes that never seem to end, while the current administration focuses more on its image abroad than the struggle at your kitchen table. Young people are uncertain about their future, fearing they are being schooled for an economy that only rewards the well-connected. Seniors worry whether the Barbados they helped build is being sold off or managed into decline. **Too many feel unheard, unseen, and deliberately disconnected by a government that treats power as a private privilege rather than a public trust.** This document was born from the voices of the majority who have been left in the heat while a few enjoy the shade.

Over the past years, the Democratic Labour Party has listened carefully and consistently to Barbadians in their homes, communities, and workplaces. **What we heard was honest and clear: deep frustration with a government that borrows to fund its own optics while households capture no relief.** We heard anger at the waste and mismanagement of a massive Cabinet and a cadre of highly-paid consultants; fear about a crime wave that is no longer being met with seriousness; and disappointment with a health and education system that is failing those who rely on it most. We have seen a “politician’s republic” take shape, one where decisions are hidden in the shadows and transparency is treated as a threat rather than a duty.

Barbados deserves better than a government that chooses itself every single time.

Barbados First is not a slogan. It is a commitment to end the “Big Man” game. It means that the interests of Barbados and its people, the workers, the mothers, and the small business owners, must always come before political convenience, personal ambition, or short-term optics. It means leadership that serves, listens, and tells the truth, even when that truth is uncomfortable. It means restoring trust between the government and the people it exists to serve, so that the circumstances of the many, not the isolated few, can be improved. **While others focus on being ‘world leaders,’ we are focused on being your servants.**

This manifesto is not a collection of promises. It is a Contract with the people of Barbados. It is offered openly and deliberately to invite the scrutiny that the current administration avoids. It demands the accountability that has been missing

for years and sets a clear standard for how power should be used. It allows you, the citizen, to measure our performance and question our decisions throughout our term, not just when we come looking for a vote. **We are putting the keys to the house back in your hands.**

This Contract sets out a clear and practical plan based on what Barbadians have told us matters most. **It focuses on reducing the cost of living by cutting VAT and scrapping the garbage tax, providing relief that actually reaches your pocket instead of funding more consultants.** It commits to tackling crime with evidence and resolve, securing our ports and our streets alike. It prioritizes education reform so that effort once again leads to ownership. It places public health back where it belongs, around the patient, not the bureaucracy. And it restores integrity as a non-negotiable pillar of governance, ensuring that the “shadows” in our public life are finally chased away by the light of transparency.

We do not pretend that the challenges facing Barbados are simple, or that solutions come without trade-offs. But we reject the idea that decline is inevitable, that waste is acceptable, or that citizens should expect less from their government just because the elite are comfortable.

Small countries succeed when leadership is disciplined, honest, and focused on results for the people, not just a spreadsheet for the IMF.

This election is about more than changing a government. It is about restoring balance, dignity, and confidence in our country. **It is about choosing a future where People Matter Again.** It is about ending a path where the few decide for the many, and starting a new chapter where we all rise together.

**TOGETHER, LET US PUT
BARBADOS FIRST**

Ralph Anthony Thorne

LEADER OF THE DEMOCRATIC LABOUR PARTY



THE FIRST 100 DAYS

PUTTING BARBADOS FIRST WITH PROOF, NOT PROMISES

The first 100 days of a new DLP Government will not be about solving everything at once.

They will be about **how government governs**:

openness, discipline, relief that reaches people,
and decisions made in the national interest.

RESTORING TRUST & ACCOUNTABILITY



 Issue a Prime Minister's Governance Directive setting clear standards for ministerial responsibility, and transparency across all state bodies

 Publish a plain-language national statement on Barbados's debt, borrowing commitments, major projects, and contingent liabilities

 Fully implement Integrity in Public Life legislation, including clear timelines for enforcement, declarations, and oversight

 Mandate the public release of all reports already laid in Parliament, with clear ministerial response timelines

THE FIRST 100 DAYS

REDUCING COST-OF-LIVING PRESSURE



Reduce VAT by
at least

**2.5
percent**



Expand the
VAT zero-rated
basket to include
additional
essential and
healthier food
items



Remove the
household garbage
and sewage tax
and publish a
framework for a
fair, usage-based
replacement



Introduce a national
bus transfer system
to reduce daily
transport costs for
workers, students,
and seniors

GOVERNING IN THE OPEN



Introduce regular
Question Time
in Parliament to
strengthen scrutiny
and accountability



Apply a Major
Projects Assurance
Framework to all
large public projects,
including business
cases, risk registers,
and quarterly public
progress updates



Launch a public
procurement
transparency portal
showing tenders,
awards, and payment
timelines, with clear
SME participation
targets

THE FIRST 100 DAYS

SAFER COMMUNITIES & JUSTICE THAT WORKS



Deploy targeted, high-visibility policing in high-risk areas, supported by intelligence-led operations



Begin implementation of enhanced port-of-entry surveillance to disrupt gun, drug, and organised crime flows



Approve the separation of prosecution functions from the police to professionalise law enforcement and strengthen justice outcomes



STABILISING HEALTH CARE & ESSENTIAL SERVICES



Mandate nurse-led triage at Accident & Emergency departments to reduce waiting times and anxiety



Contract private General Practitioners to support polyclinics and relieve frontline pressure



Publish national wait-time standards and service performance indicators for public healthcare



Announce the implementation timetable for a unified electronic health records system

THE FIRST 100 DAYS

EDUCATION, YOUTH & THE FUTURE



Launch national early-childhood screening and diagnostic intervention programmes from ages 1 to 5

Publish a zoned deployment plan for psychologists, therapists, counsellors, and social workers

Expand paid apprenticeships, TVET placements, and school-to-work pathways aligned to labour-market demand

ECONOMIC DIRECTION & NATIONAL CAPACITY



Publish a clear macroeconomic framework centred on stability, productivity, employment, and fairness across generations

Outline reforms to the Central Bank framework to support productive investment, resilience, and responsible borrowing

Approve the establishment phase of a National Investment and Development Bank, consolidating development finance institutions into a single, coherent structure

THE FIRST 100 DAYS

A GOVERNING STANDARD

At the end of the first 100 days, the country will not be asked to trust promises. It will be able to see how power is exercised, openly, carefully, and in the national interest.

THIS IS HOW **BARBADOS FIRST** GOVERNS

WITH DISCIPLINE, WITH HONESTY, AND WITH PROOF.



WHY THIS CONTRACT EXISTS

Barbadians have never lacked civic pride, resilience, or a willingness to shoulder responsibility. **What has weakened over time is not commitment to country, but confidence that sacrifice is shared fairly, decisions are taken transparently, and failure carries consequences.**

Across town halls, call-in programmes, union statements, business forums, social media, and private conversations, the same concerns surface again and again: decisions feel distant; consultation feels performative; **accountability feels selective; and ordinary people feel exposed while power feels protected.**

For many families, this loss of trust is not abstract. It is experienced daily through **rising costs, unreliable services, fear in communities, and the quiet erosion of dignity** in how public services are delivered. People feel that when things go wrong, explanations are slow, responsibility is unclear, and correction is rare. **This Contract exists to reset that relationship.**

FOR TOO LONG, **ORDINARY PEOPLE HAVE FELT EXPOSED** WHILE POWER FELT PROTECTED. WE ARE RESETTING THE RELATIONSHIP TO ENSURE THAT CONSULTATION IS REAL AND **ACCOUNTABILITY IS NO LONGER SELECTIVE**

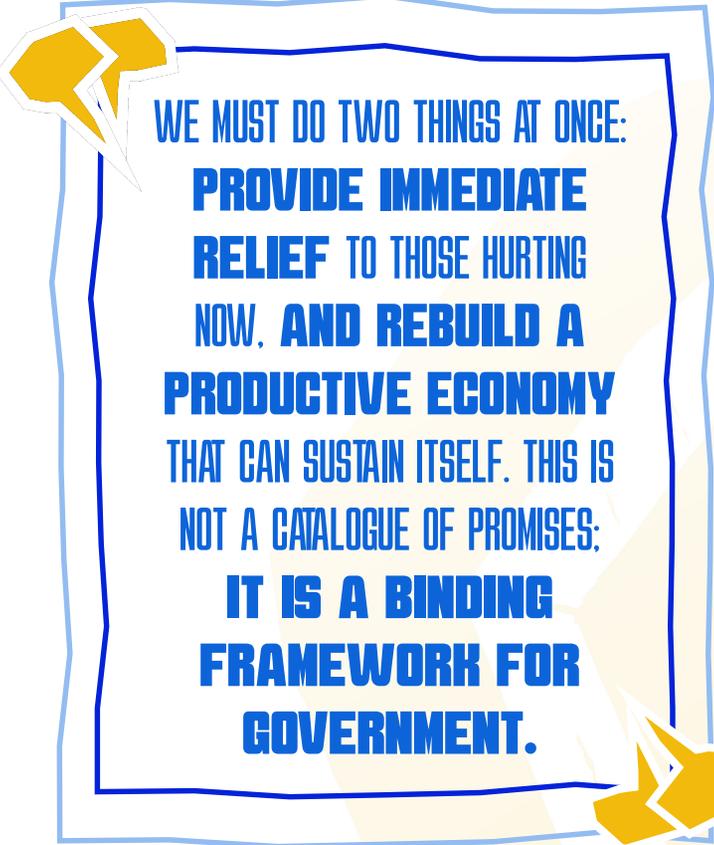
THE ECONOMIC REALITY WE MUST FACE

Barbados's economic challenges are not abstract. They are structural. Our economy is driven overwhelmingly by consumption, much of it imported, while investment and domestic production remain weak. This means that **growth is easily disrupted by external shocks and rising global prices**, while relief at home is quickly eroded.

Over recent years, national debt has shifted sharply toward external borrowing. This matters because external debt must be repaid in foreign currency and places increasing pressure on future revenues. **When borrowing is used to fund consumption rather than productive assets, it does not strengthen the economy, it mortgages it.**

This Contract is honest about that reality. Borrowing today without creating assets tomorrow places an unfair burden on our children and grandchildren. It creates future taxes, future cuts, and fewer choices. That is not responsible leadership.

Economic reform must therefore do two things at once:



**WE MUST DO TWO THINGS AT ONCE:
PROVIDE IMMEDIATE
RELIEF TO THOSE HURTING
NOW, AND REBUILD A
PRODUCTIVE ECONOMY
THAT CAN SUSTAIN ITSELF. THIS IS
NOT A CATALOGUE OF PROMISES;
IT IS A BINDING
FRAMEWORK FOR
GOVERNMENT.**

provide relief where people are hurting now, and rebuild a productive economy that can sustain itself. This Contract commits to both.

It is grounded in a long Democratic Labour Party tradition that holds that development must be people-centred, socially balanced, economically viable, environmentally responsible, and governed with integrity. It is **not a catalogue of promises, but a governing framework**, one that invites scrutiny rather than avoids it.

This Contract is guided by a clear national vision for Barbados, one rooted in integrity, fairness, resilience, and opportunity for all. It recognises that national progress is not measured only by growth figures or international praise, but by whether people feel secure, respected, and able to plan their lives with confidence.

Barbadians have been clear about the pressures they face most sharply: **the rising cost of living, fear of crime, anxiety about health care, unreliable transport and basic services, and insecurity around housing.** These pressures are not isolated; they compound each other and shape daily life. This Contract responds to those realities directly.

FAIRNESS ACROSS GENERATIONS

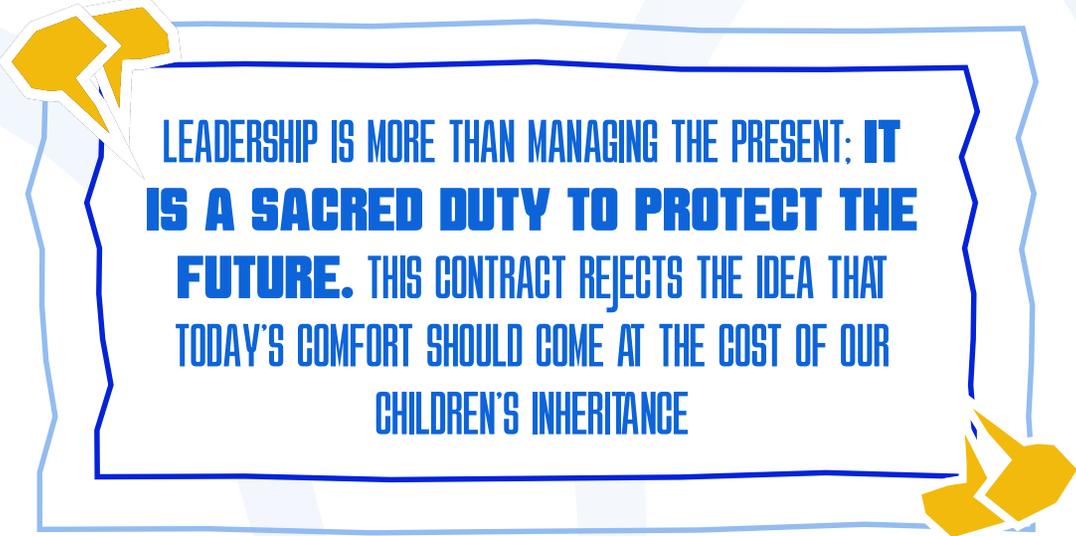
Leadership is not only about managing the present. It is about protecting the future.

Every dollar borrowed today without creating productive assets becomes a claim on the income of future Barbadians. It limits choices, raises future taxes, and reduces national sovereignty. **When debt grows faster than national income, the burden does not disappear, it is transferred.**

This Contract rejects the idea that today's comfort should come at tomorrow's cost. Economic decisions will be judged not only by their short-term impact, but by whether they strengthen or weaken the inheritance we leave behind.

This vision demands a different way of governing. It requires **transparency instead of opacity**, accountability instead of assurance, and delivery instead of declarations. It places people, their daily lives, their work, their health, their safety, and their dignity, at the centre of decision-making.

The Contract that follows translates this long-term vision into practical commitments that Barbadians can recognise in their everyday experience and measure over time. It is designed not to ask for blind trust, but to **rebuild confidence through visible action, honest correction, and respect for the people of Barbados.**



LEADERSHIP IS MORE THAN MANAGING THE PRESENT; IT IS A SACRED DUTY TO PROTECT THE FUTURE. THIS CONTRACT REJECTS THE IDEA THAT TODAY'S COMFORT SHOULD COME AT THE COST OF OUR CHILDREN'S INHERITANCE

WHEN WE SUCCEED, PEOPLE WILL SEE:

A government that explains itself, corrects itself, and treats the public as participants rather than spectators in national life.



A NEW CONTRACT FOR GOVERNANCE

Open decisions. Clear responsibility.
Public proof.

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

A consistent concern in Barbados is not simply what decisions are taken, but how they are taken. Too many policies appear fully formed before the public ever hears of them. **Oversight bodies issue reports that gather dust.** Parliament feels procedural rather than consequential. When projects fail, responsibility is blurred and lessons are not shared.

People want competence, honesty, and consequences, not excuses.

THE DLP COMMITS TO:



Governing in the open, with decisions explained, published, and accountable



Restoring Parliament as a place of real scrutiny, not ritual



Treating public money as a trust, not a convenience



Ensuring responsibility is clear and failure carries consequences

OUR MANDATE

Transparency & Legislative Scrutiny



Policy Transparency

Mandate the publication of policy rationales, fiscal implications, implementation timelines, and performance indicators for all major initiatives.



Public Consultation

Require the public circulation of draft legislation prior to parliamentary debate, with clear consultation windows.



Active Scrutiny

Reinvigorate Parliament as a site of scrutiny through the introduction of Question Time.



Accountability Deadlines

Guarantee response timelines for parliamentary questions, committee reports, and audit findings.



Plain-Language Reporting

Mandate the public release of all reports laid in Parliament, with plain-language summaries.



Official Communication

Provide weekly national briefings on matters of public concern.



Stakeholder Engagement

Formalise Social Partnership engagement on stakeholder-impacting legislation.

Audit & Integrity



Auditor Independence

Legally insulate the Auditor General and strengthen follow-through powers.



Oversight Reform

Reform and resource the Public Accounts Committee, including tracking of implementation.



Corrective Auditing

Require formal ministerial responses to audit findings, including corrective timelines.



Integrity Enforcement

Fully implement Integrity in Public Life legislation.



Information Rights

Align the Freedom of Information regime with Data Protection law.

Strategic Procurement



Centralised Procurement

Establish a standalone Public Procurement Department with transparent criteria, awards, and performance reporting.



Strategic Purchasing

Use public procurement in the national interest by deploying government purchasing power strategically to support domestic production, job creation, and value retention.



Buy Local Mandate

Require, where feasible, public institutions to source goods and services locally, subject to quality and cost benchmarks, using procurement to signal demand to local producers, strengthen supply chains, reduce imports, and keep public spending circulating in Barbados.

Economic & Fiscal Discipline



Debt Disclosure

Publish all debt-related activity once finalised, including maturity profiles, interest payments, and the real cost to the economy.



Institutional Coordination

Strengthen economic stabilisation and institutional coordination, recognising that inflation, global downturns, and energy price spikes cannot be managed by fiscal policy alone.



Stability Alignment

Coordinate fiscal policy and the Central Bank to protect employment, stabilise prices, and support productive investment during periods of economic stress.



Monetary Modernization

Modernise the legislative framework governing monetary policy to ensure national institutions can act responsibly, transparently, and in the national interest, especially in small, open economies exposed to external volatility.

 **Responsible Borrowing**
Adopt responsible borrowing and fiscal discipline, recognising that fiscal discipline is not austerity but fairness across generations.

 **Productive Debt**
End the practice of borrowing to fund routine consumption, tying public borrowing instead to productive purposes that generate economic value, foreign exchange, or long-term savings.

 **Borrowing Justification**
Require all major borrowing to be accompanied by a public statement explaining what asset or capacity is being created, how it strengthens productivity or resilience, and how it will help repay or offset the debt incurred.

Project Assurance & Service Standards

 **Project Oversight**
Introduce additional governance safeguards, including a Major Projects Assurance Framework with business cases, risk registers, independent gateways, and quarterly public progress updates for all large public projects.

 **National Interest Test**
Apply a mandatory national interest test to all major public projects, requiring demonstration of economic viability and lifecycle cost, clear delivery timelines and risks, impact on debt sustainability, and contribution to productivity, resilience, or service quality.

 **Fiscal Veto**
Reject any major project that fails this test, regardless of political pressure or visibility, ensuring public money is invested with discipline rather than impulse.

 **Performance Dashboards**
Introduce performance dashboards for core public services, including health, transport, water, sanitation, and housing delivery.

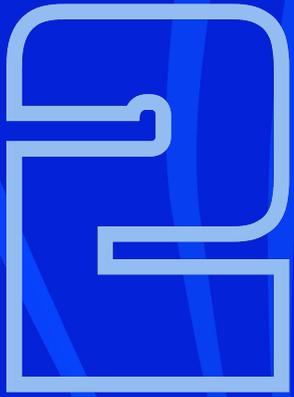
 **Service Culture**
Establish a “service standard” culture across public agencies, including licensing, welfare, and regulatory bodies.

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

Our Mandate governs with one clear test: **Barbados First**. That means decisions taken in the open, power exercised with restraint, and public resources used in the national interest, not for convenience, optics, or special access. It means **laws that serve people, institutions that answer to the public, and economic choices that protect today's Barbadians** without mortgaging tomorrow's. Barbados First is not a slogan; it is a standard. A standard that demands transparency instead of secrecy, accountability instead of excuses, and **delivery instead of delay**. This is how trust is rebuilt, not through promises, but through how government acts, every day, in the best interests of the people of Barbados.

OUR MANDATE IS GOVERNED BY ONE TEST:
**LAWS THAT SERVE THE
PEOPLE AND ECONOMIC CHOICES
THAT PROTECT TODAY'S
BARBADIANS** WITHOUT
MORTGAGING THE INHERITANCE OF
TOMORROW'S





A NEW CONTRACT FOR THE ECONOMY

Fairness, productivity,
and truth in national finances

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

A pervasive economic anxiety in Barbados is not simply the rising cost of living, but the **sense that the path to progress is narrowing**. Daily expenses consistently outstrip wages, leaving families feeling that relief is temporary while pressure is permanent. National debt is viewed as a silent transfer of burden to the next generation rather than a strategic investment in productive assets. **Economic planning feels reactive and import-dependent, propped up by short-term fixes** that offer comfort today at a steep cost tomorrow. Above all, there is a demand for economic honesty, a rejection of policies that prioritize current optics over the long-term inheritance of our children.

The people want stable prices, fair growth, and a legacy, not debt.

THE DLP COMMITS TO:



Telling the truth about the economy, debt, and trade-offs



Borrowing to build productive capacity, not to fund consumption



Protecting fairness across generations in every major economic decision



Rebuilding productivity so growth is real, resilient, and widely shared

OUR MANDATE

Economic Truth & Intergenerational Equity

Honest Economic Appraisal

Tell the truth about the economy and the debt we carry, being honest about the structural weaknesses in Barbados's economy, including an overreliance on consumption and imports, weak domestic investment and productivity, and vulnerability to global shocks and rising prices that quickly erase local gains, while making clear that borrowing which does not create productive assets limits future choices, raises future taxes, weakens national sovereignty, and transfers the burden from today's citizens to tomorrow's.

Borrowing for Growth

Borrow to build, not to consume, ending the practice of borrowing primarily to fund consumption and tying public borrowing to productive investment, assets and systems that generate economic value, foreign exchange, resilience, or long-term savings, restoring fiscal prudence without resorting to austerity that harms households and communities.

Generational Fairness

Protect fairness across generations, **judging economic decisions not only by short-term impact** but by whether they strengthen or weaken the inheritance we leave behind, treating losses to national institutions, including pension funds, with seriousness and making intergenerational fairness a guiding principle of fiscal policy.

Macroeconomic Management & Stability

Stability-First Framework

Establish and maintain a clear macroeconomic framework that prioritises stability, sustainable growth, and employment, while actively managing inflation and shielding households from

sudden cost-of-living shocks, so economic progress is felt in real wages, prices, and daily life.

Evidence-Based Governance

Govern responsibly through evidence-led, coordinated fiscal planning, ensuring economic growth remains stable, fair, and affordable for every household.

● Sovereign Resilience

Reduce vulnerability in a small, open economy, governing deliberately as a small island state by designing economic policy to manage volatility, reduce excessive import dependence, and strengthen domestic production so that growth is more stable, resilient, and inclusive.

Productivity & Labour

● National Productivity Goal

Rebuild productivity as a national objective, treating productivity growth as a core national goal and acting entrepreneurially where private capacity is insufficient by supporting domestic investment, modern technology, and innovation in ways that create jobs rather than displace workers blindly.

● Policy Coordination

Coordinate fiscal and monetary policy to maintain low unemployment, promote growth, manage inflation with a target of 1–2 percent, treat government deficits as potential productive surpluses when asset-creating, use Central Bank money supply elasticity during downturns, and end excessive borrowing and spending not tied to productivity.

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE



An economy will be built where growth feels real because it is rooted in production, not just spending, where public borrowing creates lasting assets instead of anxiety. Young people will be able to look to the future with confidence, knowing that today's decisions are expanding their opportunities, not quietly limiting them. Barbados will live within its means while still investing boldly in productivity, resilience, and opportunity, proving that responsibility and ambition can coexist. Above all, economic policy will be grounded in honesty, treating Barbadians as partners in the truth and participants in their own progress, restoring confidence that the future is being managed carefully, fairly, and in the best interests of the country.



AN ECONOMY WHERE OUR
**YOUNG PEOPLE CAN
LOOK FORWARD WITH
CONFIDENCE,** KNOWING THAT
TODAY'S DECISIONS ARE **EXPANDING
THEIR HORIZONS,** NOT QUIETLY
LIMITING THEIR CHOICES.



A NEW CONTRACT FOR AN AFFORDABLE SOCIETY

Relief that reaches households, not headlines

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

The cost-of-living crisis is not theoretical. It shows up in grocery bills, electricity statements, transport fares, import duties, pension deductions, and the constant recalculation of what must be postponed. **Many feel that relief measures are indirect, captured early, or unevenly applied**, while taxes, fees, and duties fall hardest on those already stretched.

Households want fairness, predictability, and measures that reach them directly, not policies that look good on paper but disappear before they reach the kitchen table.

THE DLP COMMITS TO:



Delivering cost-of-living relief that reaches households directly



Protecting families from sudden price shocks in a small, open economy



Rewarding work and effort rather than penalising it



Reducing everyday costs by strengthening domestic production and competition

OUR MANDATE

Direct Household & Tax Relief

- 
VAT Reduction
 Reduce VAT by at least 2.5 percent.
- 
Essential Basket Expansion
 Expand the VAT zero-rated basket to include healthier food options and essential household items.
- 
Utility Tax Reform
 Remove the sewage and garbage tax from households and replace it with a usage-based tax.

Housing & Land Affordability

- 
Residential Tax Deduction
 Make residential land tax deductible (\leq \$500k) to ease household cost pressure.

- 
Luxury Surcharge
 Introduce a 3% luxury tax to shift the burden away from essentials.
- 
Reduced Utility Entry Costs
 Reduce water connection and administrative fees by consolidating government expenditure.
- 
Pensioner Tax Relief
 Remove income tax on pensions.
- 
Overtime Incentives
 Reward effort and work by recognising that hard work should not be punished by the tax system and introducing targeted tax relief on overtime earnings, particularly for low- and middle-income workers.
- 
First-Time Buyer Support
 Five-year land tax moratorium for first-time buyers (cost-of-living + housing interface).
- 
Land Market Stimulus
 Reduce vacant land transfer tax to 1.5% to improve land access and price dynamics.

Market Fairness & Inflation Control

Competition & Price Oversight

Promote cost of living and market fairness by reviewing market concentration in import, wholesale, and retail sectors and strengthening competition enforcement, incentivising new and small market entrants, re-establishing and modernising the Price Control Unit, and reviewing the cumulative impact of duties and VAT on small household imports.

Utility Efficiency

Address utilities, fees, and household charges by investing in metering, leakage reduction, and system efficiency.

Proactive Inflation Management

Manage inflation proactively rather than reactively, adopting targeted tools to dampen the impact of imported inflation, particularly in food, energy, and transport, and using temporary measures during periods of abnormal price volatility.

Transport & Infrastructure

Universal Bus Transfer

Implement a national bus transfer system, reducing the need for multiple bus fares.

Strategic Traffic Modernization

Improve transport affordability by establishing a 10-year Strategic Traffic Management Plan aimed at modernising transport, eliminating bottlenecks, rationalising routes, and retaining public ownership of the Barbados Transport Board.

Social Security & Labor Protection

Pension & Labor Security

Strengthen pensions, workers' protection, and income security by linking pension rates to public service salary increases, ending

casualisation of public sector employment, and introducing a calibrated Cost-of-Living Family Allowance.

Universal Basic Employment

Treat work as dignity, not punishment, by introducing a Universal Basic

Employment programme offering able-bodied welfare recipients and unemployed Barbadians access to structured work, training, or internships to reduce long-term dependency.



Social Contribution

Ensure participants earn income, build skills, and contribute to National Insurance.

Investment in Production



National Development Banking

Finance production, not just consumption, by establishing a National Investment and Development Bank to support job creation and domestic production, focusing on manufacturing, agriculture, renewable energy, and digital industries.

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

Paychecks will stretch further as everyday costs become more manageable. Transport will cost less to use, making work, school, and daily life easier to plan. Households will be better protected from sudden price shocks, with relief that reaches families directly and predictably. Pensioners will live with dignity instead of anxiety, secure in the knowledge that their contributions are respected. And affordability will improve not through temporary fixes, but because domestic production and employment are growing, so progress shows up clearly at the kitchen table, where it matters most.

**EVERY PAYCHECK COVERS THE BILLS. DAILY TRAVEL IS AFFORDABLE,
AND THE DIGNITY OF OUR SENIORS IS ABSOLUTE... SECURED
BY A PRODUCTIVE ECONOMY THAT DELIVERS REAL, MEASURABLE RELIEF.**

A NEW CONTRACT FOR SAFETY & JUSTICE

Security measured by outcomes, not speeches

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

People tell us that fear is changing their daily routines and shrinking their sense of safety long before it shows up in crime statistics. There is a **profound sense that justice is applied unevenly**, with many believing that outcomes depend more on status and connections than on the law. Barbadians see a system slowed by delays and poor coordination, where the social roots of crime, broken families and lack of opportunity, are ignored while prevention and rehabilitation are under-prioritized. Above all, **people want a professional, consistent justice system where safety is a right for every citizen**, not a privilege for the few.

The people want protection, professionalism, and accountability, not uneven justice.

THE DLP COMMITS TO:



Protecting public safety through professionalism, not intimidation



Ensuring justice is applied fairly, promptly, and without favour



Reducing reoffending through rehabilitation, work, and reintegration



Treating prevention as a national responsibility, not an afterthought

OUR MANDATE

Policing & Public Safety

-  **Saturation Policing**
Expand high-visibility saturation policing in high-risk areas as a deterrent, used strategically and lawfully.
-  **Border Security**
Implement a comprehensive camera system at ports of entry to disrupt gun, drug, and organised crime flows.
-  **Police ICT Modernization**
Implement a stand-alone police ICT system to improve operational coordination and intelligence.
-  **Training & Development**
Expand access to advanced training and professional development, including specialist training for SWAT, hostage response, and high-risk operations.
-  **Operational Independence**
Insulate professional policing from political interference, with clear operational independence and accountability.

-  **Modernised Investigations**
Modernise policing through technology-enabled investigations, reducing reliance on confessions and improving evidence quality.
-  **Recruitment Pathways**
Recruit into policing earlier through school-age and cadet-style pathways, building professionalism and trust from the ground up.
-  **Infrastructural Expansion**
Establish a Central Police Station supported by modern satellite stations.
-  **Judicial Surveillance**
Deploy surveillance technologies and judicially supervised systems to strengthen public confidence while protecting rights.
-  **Officer Welfare**
Improve police pay, benefits, and working conditions, including the introduction of group health insurance.

Intelligence & Enforcement

- Zero-Tolerance Enforcement**
Adopt zero-tolerance enforcement for gun crime, supported by intelligence and swift prosecution.
- Organised Crime Strategy**
Strengthen intelligence-led approaches to gun, gang, and organised crime through modern anti-gang legislation.
- Whistle-blower Protection**
Enact informant and whistle-blower protection laws to support intelligence gathering.

- Cyber-Crime Management**
Establish clear legal tools for cyber-crime management as crime increasingly moves online.

- Public Order Consistency**
Enforce public order laws consistently, including noise nuisance and public safety hazards, to restore confidence that order is not selective.

Criminal Justice Reform

- Prosecutorial Separation**
Remove prosecution functions from the police, establishing a dedicated prosecution service.
- Equitable Legal Aid**
Expand and modernise Legal Aid, ensuring access to justice regardless of income.

- Case Acceleration**
Accelerate case processing through court staffing, scheduling reform, and digital case management.

- Victim Support**
Introduce Victim Liaison Officers to guide victims through the justice process and strengthen witness protection.

Specialized Courts

Establish drug treatment courts and a unified family court to address root causes and reduce repeat offending.

Forensic Science Revival

Reopen the forensic sciences centre to end systemic bottlenecks in investigations.

Rehabilitation & Reintegration

Correctional Education

Expand education, skills training, and counselling within correctional facilities.

Reintegration Pathways

Reduce reoffending by linking release to housing, employment, and supervised reintegration.

Government-Backed Employment

Provide 6 months of government-funded probationary employment for persons leaving incarceration.

Employer Incentives

Provide targeted tax and financial incentives for employers who participate in reintegration programmes and retain rehabilitated individuals.

Dignity Through Work

Enable individuals leaving incarceration to earn income and stability, ensuring rehabilitation is real rather than rhetorical.

Prevention & Community Outreach

Social Crime Prevention

Make crime prevention a cornerstone of social policy, investing in community-based mentorship and youth intervention.

Civic Education

Introduce civic studies and soft-skills education from early childhood to reinforce norms and conflict resolution.

Mediation & Conflict Resolution

Train Justices of the Peace in mediation and establish community mediation mechanisms to resolve disputes before they escalate.

4. SAFETY AND JUSTICE



Domestic Violence Response

Strengthen responses to domestic violence through coordinated police, social, and court action.



Parish Council Engagement

Introduce Parish Councils as vehicles for community outreach and youth engagement.



Community Development Centers

Modernise and empower Community Development Service Centres to deliver local services and create steady employment in high-risk communities.



Evidence-Based Policy

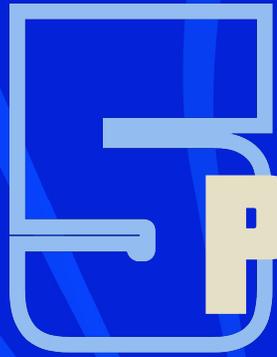
Commit to ongoing crime research, data publication, and policy review to ensure a dynamic, evolving national effort.

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

Communities can once again reclaim normal routines, supported by visible policing that deters crime without intimidation. Victims will be supported, witnesses protected, and cases moved swiftly through the courts, reducing fear without resorting to over-policing. Rehabilitation will be strengthened to lower reoffending, while young people are diverted early before they are lost to the system. Above all, confidence will be restored that safety and justice do not depend on who you are, where you live, or who you know.

RECLAIMING OUR NEIGHBORHOODS THROUGH **RESPECTFUL POLICING AND A FAIR JUSTICE SYSTEM** THAT SECURES VICTIMS AND **ENSURES SAFETY IS A RIGHT, NOT A PRIVILEGE.**





A NEW CONTRACT FOR PUBLIC HEALTHCARE

A service system, not a crisis response

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

Healthcare anxiety stems from poor patient experiences: long waits, inadequate communication, staff burnout, and uncertainty. **Patients report overcrowded A&E, slow diagnostics and medications, rushed consultations, and poor discharge follow-up.** Professionals cite exhaustion and understaffing, noting the system relies on heroics over planning. Access to quality care is increasingly determined by ability to pay as private provision grows and public capacity declines, leading to **fears that public healthcare will become a last resort for many Barbadians.**

The people want a reliable, transparent public healthcare system where quality care is guaranteed by design and dignity, rather than by personal wealth or staff exhaustion.

THE DLP COMMITS TO:



Putting patients, dignity, and prevention at the centre of care



Making public healthcare reliable, predictable, and humane



Supporting and respecting health workers as the backbone of the system



Using data and planning to fix systems, not blame individuals

OUR MANDATE

Digital Health & Data Privacy

- 
National Electronic Records
 Implement a unified, island-wide electronic patient records system with strong privacy protections, ensuring interoperability between public and private providers so patient histories follow the patient.

- 
Efficiency Through Data
 Use national digital health records as a cost-containment and efficiency tool, reducing repeat tests and delays.

- 
Modernized Information Use
 Modernise health records and information use by using data responsibly to improve planning, staffing, and outcomes rather than to penalise frontline workers.

Community & Preventative Care

- 
Equitable Access
 Ensure equitable access to medicines and services, expanding geriatric and elderly care services including community-based models, and expanding preventative health campaigns and incentives including screenings and lifestyle interventions.

- 
Community-First Foundation
 Rebuild healthcare around the patient and the community by reestablishing community healthcare as the foundation of the system to reduce unnecessary pressure on hospitals, reviving and expanding district nurse programmes, mobile health vans, and community screening clinics.

Localized Diagnostics

Strengthen polyclinics and community medical units with on-site diagnostics so care is closer, faster, and preventative.

- 
GP Support Scheme
 Contract private General Practitioners to support polyclinics under a General Practice Support Scheme to stabilise frontline service delivery and reduce wait times.

- 
Wellness & Prevention
 Shift the health system toward prevention and wellness by strengthening mental health services as a core pillar of public health and advancing national strategies in nutrition education, environmental health, and chronic disease prevention.

Wellness & Prevention

Shift the health system toward prevention and wellness by strengthening mental health services as a core pillar of public health and advancing national strategies in nutrition education, environmental health, and chronic disease prevention.

Emergency Care & Patient Flow

Congestion Reduction

Separate Primary Care Units from Accident & Emergency to reduce unnecessary emergency congestion and household anxiety.

Surgical Throughput

Capital investment in emergency operating theatres to improve throughput and reduce costly bottlenecks.

Redesigned Patient Flow

Fix patient flow and emergency care by redesigning patient flow at Accident & Emergency departments and polyclinics to separate urgent, semi-urgent, and non-urgent care streams.

Nurse-Led Triage

Introduce mandatory nurse-led triage to ensure patients are assessed quickly and directed appropriately.

Dedicated QEH Primary Unit

Establish a GP-led Primary Care Unit at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital clearly separated from A&E.

Surgical Expansion

Construct two additional Accident & Emergency operating theatres to reduce congestion and delays.

Seamless Discharge

Improve discharge planning so patients are not released into gaps between hospital and community care.

Workforce Support & Retention



Strategic Planning

Support and retain health workers by improving staff deployment, training, and workforce planning especially in primary and emergency care.



Specialist Nursing Corps

Create a specialist nursing corps with structured training, career pathways, and promotion opportunities.



Practical Staff Support

Introduce practical staff supports including transport assistance, housing support, and targeted incentives while improving nurse allowances.



Medical Tenure

Provide permanent tenure for doctors and prioritise staff well-being by recognising burnout as a system failure rather than an individual one.

Specialized Care & Supply Chain



Drug Service Reform

Review and reform drug service policies to improve availability and consistency by centralising and modernising inventory and supply management to reduce shortages.



Caregiver Support

Establish a formal home-care support programme including training and stipends for caregivers.



Palliative Dignity

Improve palliative and hospice care so dignity, comfort, and family support are guaranteed at every stage.

Accountability & Modernization



Public Progress Reporting

Publish progress updates so the public can see what is improving and what still needs work.



Transparency Standards

Establish accountability and transparency by introducing public reporting of wait-time standards for key services and defining clear lines of accountability at hospitals, polyclinics, and agencies.



Long-Term Sustainability

Develop long-term options for healthcare financing and universal coverage grounded in evidence, updating legislation and policies to protect patients, health workers, and data privacy.



QEH Replacement

Phase reform carefully by stabilising first, integrating second, and modernising third, and constructing a new Queen Elizabeth Hospital as part of long-term system modernisation.

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

Public healthcare will deliver shorter, more predictable waiting times, supported by clear communication and coordinated follow-up so patients are not left in uncertainty. Community clinics will play a stronger role in solving problems before they become emergencies, while health workers are valued, supported, and professionally respected. Elderly and vulnerable patients will be cared for with dignity, restoring confidence in a public healthcare system that Barbadians can trust again, not because it is perfect, but because it is reliable, humane, and continuously improving.

RESTORING CONFIDENCE THROUGH
EFFICIENT CLINICS AND SHORTER
WAITS. ENSURING EVERY BARBADIAN
**RECEIVES RELIABLE,
COMPASSIONATE
CARE FROM A VALUED
AND SUPPORTED
HEALTHCARE
WORKFORCE.**



A NEW CONTRACT FOR EDUCATION PATHWAYS

Relevance, pathways that leads somewhere, dignity

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

Barbados highly values education, yet the **lack of reliable opportunity frustrates citizens**. Years of stalled reforms have left the system directionless, lowering educator morale and replacing sound planning with politics. Stakeholders demand clarity: families want early support and meaningful pathways (academic, technical, vocational); educators seek clarity, respect, and freedom from interference; employers need skilled graduates; and communities desire schools that anchor opportunity. **Despite near-universal access, outcomes are uneven**. Early gaps, poor transitions, inconsistent inclusion, and too many unqualified school leavers persist. **Barbadians call for a purposeful, fair, professionally led education system connected to real-life opportunity**.

The people want an education system led by professionals, not politics, that transforms classroom effort into guaranteed pathways for every child.

THE DLP COMMITS TO:



Ensuring every child is identified early and supported appropriately so that they have equity and opportunity



Creating clear pathways from education to work and lifelong learning



Making inclusive education the system norm, not the exception



Respecting and empowering educators through professionalism and support

OUR MANDATE

Early Childhood & Special Needs

Early Intervention

Implement early intervention programmes from ages 1 to 5, ensuring every learner who needs support receives it early before gaps widen, implementing parent- and teacher-based screening programmes to support professional diagnoses of learning needs, and expanding access to psychologists, therapists, counsellors, and social workers by zone.

Inclusive System Norms

Make inclusive education the system norm by embedding inclusive education across all schools as standard practice, mainstreaming

students with minor assisted-learning needs with appropriate in-class supports, and providing purpose-built facilities and specialist services for students with higher needs.

Strong Literacy Foundations

Build strong foundations through early identification and support by strengthening early literacy and numeracy through structured, evidence-based programmes and introducing mandatory diagnostic testing for hearing, vision, and learning needs.

Inclusive Infrastructure

Investing in special needs coordinators deployed at schools to ensure needs are met and applying Universal Design for Learning so teaching meets diverse needs from the outset.

Teacher Support & Professional Development

Empowered Educators

Support, respect, and empower educators through clear standards, career pathways, training, and wellness supports, and re-establishing fair collective bargaining while modernising the Education Act to reflect evolving roles.

New Teacher Induction

Introduce structured induction, mentoring, and coaching for new teachers, creating diverse career pathways in leadership, inclusion, technology, and curriculum.

Learning Continuity

Establish a centrally managed substitute teacher pool to maintain learning continuity.

Administrative Relief

Reduce administrative burden so teachers can focus on teaching and learning by implementing a single national EMIS from early childhood through secondary education.

Innovation & Productivity

National Innovation Centre

Complete National Science, Innovation & Technology Centre, supporting applied research, AI, robotics, and innovation-linked learning.

Applied Research Collaboration

Formalise collaboration with UWI, BCC, and SJPI for applied research, technical training, and innovation pathways.

Startup Incubators

Develop Startup incubators and funding support linked to education and skills pipelines.

Secondary, TVET & National Youth Service

Career Pathways

Expand pathways from school to work and lifelong learning by expanding TVET, apprenticeships, and paid school-to-work pathways aligned to labour-market demand.

Parish-Level Mentorship

Build Parish-level Business Mentorship Centres, using retired professionals as paid mentors for students and young entrepreneurs.

Productivity Through Training

Raise national productivity through education and training, aligning technology and innovation to raise productivity across all sectors from agriculture and manufacturing to the digital economy.

Modernized Assessment

Align learning with national goals and culture, modernising assessment to value projects, portfolios, and real-world application alongside examinations.

Second-Chance Pathways

Strengthen qualifications through CVQ routes and stackable credentials, and formalising second-chance CSEC opportunities and flexible re-entry pathways.

National Youth Service

Requiring mandatory participation in National Youth Service for school leavers without CXC as a bridge back to education or work.

Data, Infrastructure & Management

Public Transparency

Publish clear education data dashboards to strengthen transparency and public trust, and adopting programme-based budgeting with transparent funding formulas.

Infrastructure Modernization

Rehabilitate and retrofit all school plants prioritising safety, accessibility, and climate resilience, and equipping every school with high-speed connectivity.

Open-Source Portal

Establish a National Open-Source Education Portal to unify curriculum resources, assessments, and professional learning.

Preventative Maintenance

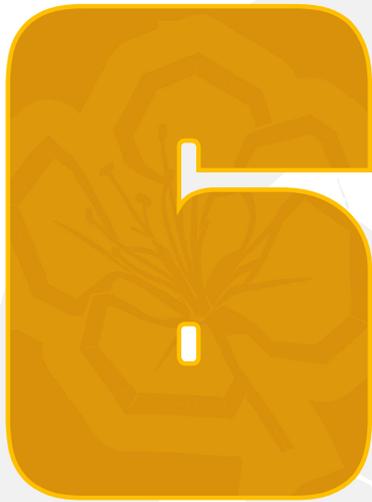
Create a dedicated Preventative Maintenance and Assessment Unit to protect school plant investments.

Strategic Oversight

Establish a National Education Council separate from the Teaching Service Commission for strategic oversight and stakeholder voice.

Community Anchors

Integrate health, welfare, and education by making schools anchors of community life, using them as hubs for sport, culture, and services after hours.

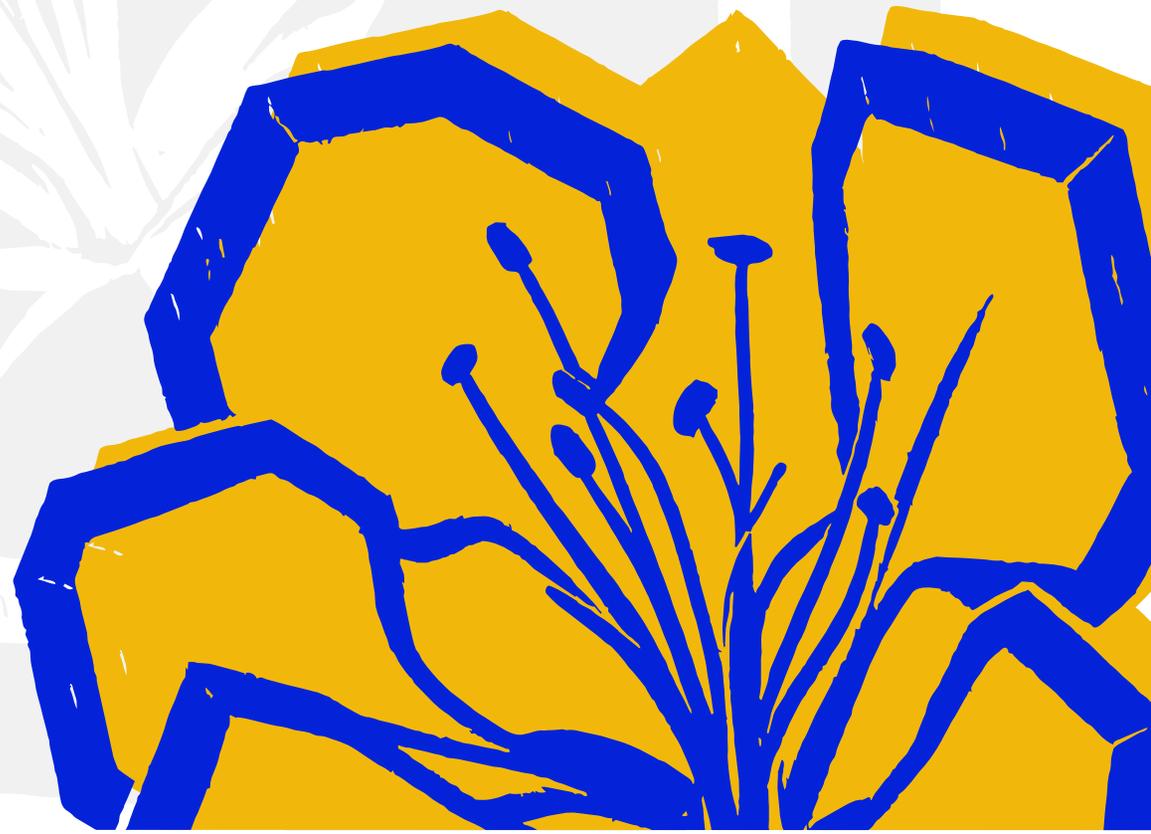


WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

Barbados needs an education system built around clear pathways from early childhood through to work and lifelong learning, where early gaps are identified and closed before they become lifelong barriers. Classrooms must be genuinely inclusive, with timely and effective support for every learner, and teachers must feel respected, supported, and professionally confident to do their best work. Students should graduate with skills, purpose, and pride, ready to contribute meaningfully to society. Our schools must once again anchor communities and opportunity, restoring an education system that is dignified, relevant, and future-ready, and that reclaims its place as Barbados' strongest bridge to prosperity, peace, and progress.

A white callout box with a blue border and a blue shadow, containing text. It has a yellow arrow pointing to the left at the top and a yellow arrow pointing to the right at the bottom.

A FUTURE—READY SYSTEM
**PROVIDING CLEAR
PATHWAYS FROM
CHILDHOOD TO CAREER,**
ENSURING EVERY STUDENT GRADUATES
WITH **PURPOSE, PRIDE,
AND THE SKILLS**







A NEW CONTRACT FOR HOUSING

Dignity and Fair Access For All

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

Housing has become a symbol of inequality, opacity, and insecurity. **Families struggle not just with affordability, but with unclear processes, delayed delivery, and inconsistent outcomes.** Many people do not know where they stand on waiting lists, how decisions are made, or how long they must wait.

For young families, housing uncertainty delays life decisions. For seniors, it threatens stability. For low- and middle-income earners, rising construction costs, land prices, and financing barriers place ownership further out of reach. Barbadians are calling for fairness, transparency, and real pathways to secure housing.

The people want a transparent, fair housing system that replaces waiting lists and uncertainty with clear, affordable pathways to secure ownership

THE DLP COMMITS TO:



Making housing allocation transparent, fair, and predictable



Expanding real pathways to ownership and secure tenure



Treating housing as a foundation of dignity, not a political favour



Using public land and finance strategically to reduce household burden

OUR MANDATE

Tax Relief & Ownership Incentives

- 
First-Time Buyer Moratorium
 Implement five-year land tax moratorium for first-time buyers, easing early ownership pressure.
- 
Residential Tax Deduction
 Make residential land tax deductible ($\leq \$500,000$) to reduce annual household costs.
- 
Property Transfer Exemption
 Increase property transfer tax exemption to \$300,000, lowering transaction barriers.

Transparency & Fairness

- 
Allocation Systems
 Implement transparent allocation systems so applicants understand criteria, timelines, and decisions.
- 
Targeted Support
 Expand support for first-time homeowners, seniors, and low-income families.

- 
Land Market Dynamics
 Reduce vacant land transfer tax to 1.5%, improving land availability and lowering prices.
- 
New Home Tax Credits
 Incentivise the purchase of new homes via provision of tax credits.
- 
Construction Material Relief
 Zero-rate VAT and duties on building materials for homes valued under \$250,020.

- 
Fair Access Enforcement
 Enforce six-month tenure title payments to ensure timely completion and reduce uncertainty.
- 
Streamlined Planning
 Reform planning processes to reduce delay without weakening standards.
- 
Zoning Protection
 Protect agricultural and residential zoning to prevent speculation and displacement.

Maintenance & Rehabilitation



Public Housing Restoration

Repair and rehabilitate existing public and assisted housing to restore safety, dignity, and liveability.



Asset Preservation

Prioritise maintenance and upgrades to extend the life of existing housing assets.



Home Rehabilitation

Repair and rehabilitate existing housing stock.

Affordability & Equity Solutions



Rent Caps

Cap rent at 25–30% of household income to protect affordability.



Mortgage Safeguards

Link mortgages to net income to reduce over-extension and default risk.



Public Land Equity

Use public land strategically as equity to reduce upfront costs and within housing finance arrangements.



National Rent-to-Own

Scale rent-to-own programmes nationally, converting rent payments into equity over time.



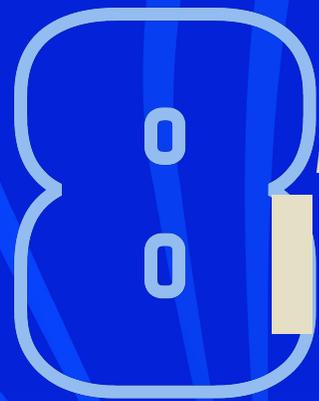
Domestic Production

Incentivise local building material manufacturing to reduce construction costs and import dependence.

7 WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

Clearer pathways to home ownership will replace confusion and delay, allowing families to plan with confidence. Communities will be rehabilitated and properly maintained, restoring pride and a sense of belonging. Rental costs will be predictable and fair, easing anxiety for households at every stage of life. Young families will be able to plan their futures without constant uncertainty, while seniors can age securely and with dignity in the homes and communities they know. Housing will once again feel stable and humane, transparent, timely, and grounded in dignity rather than fear.

STABLE, HUMANE HOUSING WHERE
**CLEAR PATHWAYS TO
OWNERSHIP** AND FAIR RENTALS
EMPOWER FAMILIES TO PLAN WITH
CONFIDENCE. **RESTORING
PRIDE AND DIGNITY TO
EVERY BAJAN NEIGHBORHOOD.**



A NEW CONTRACT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE

Transport, roads, water, and basic services

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

Across Barbados, unreliable water supply, transport services, road conditions, and garbage collection have become daily stressors. Burst mains, missed collections, traffic congestion, breakdowns, and poor communication disrupt work, family life, and business activity. Too often, **people feel forced to plan their lives around system failure instead of dependable service delivery.**

This frustration goes beyond inconvenience. When basic services fail repeatedly, it undermines dignity and erodes confidence in government. Barbadians are clear: **reliability is not a luxury. It is a basic expectation,** and a sign of respect for citizens' time, effort, and livelihoods.

The people want reliable basic services that respect their time and dignity, ending the daily struggle of planning life around system failures.

THE DLP COMMITS TO:



Treating reliable basic services as a core measure of government competence



Shifting from crisis response to prevention, planning, and maintenance



Restoring dignity and confidence through predictable, well-managed service delivery



Ensuring all parishes receive consistent and dependable basic services

OUR MANDATE

Maintenance & Service Reliability

-  **Strategic Prevention**
Prioritise preventative maintenance across transport, water, roads, and sanitation systems.
-  **Routine Scheduling**
Establish routine inspection and maintenance schedules to reduce emergency failures and costly repairs.

Water Security & Infrastructure

-  **Strategic Infrastructure**
Treat water management as a long-term national priority, not a reactive service by recognizing that water security is economic security.
-  **Leakage Reduction**
Modernise water infrastructure and reduce system loss through leakage detection and repair, treating this as a national investment priority.

-  **Asset Management**
Ensure roads and public spaces are maintained as essential public assets, not treated as emergency repairs.
-  **Service Standards**
Enforce clear performance benchmarks for sanitation services.

-  **Resource Sustainability**
Invest in reuse, desalination where appropriate, and protection of aquifers while balancing agricultural, residential, and commercial water needs.
-  **Resilient Planning**
Build climate resilience through infrastructure investment rather than short-term fixes, integrating water, drainage, and road works to reduce repeated failures.

Transport & Coordination



Fleet Reliability

Improve transport fleet reliability and service standards by upgrading maintenance regimes to reduce breakdowns and service gaps.



Predictable Service

Ensure transport services operate predictably across all parishes.



Utility Coordination

Improve coordination between road works, drainage, and utility providers to reduce repeated disruptions.

Energy Policy & Affordability



Balanced Energy Mix

Pursue a balanced energy mix that prioritises affordability, stability, and job creation, ensuring energy policy reduces costs rather than raising them.



Inflation Reduction

Use energy-driven inflation reduction to ensure energy policy supports affordability across transport, water, and sanitation services.



Sustainable Renewables

Advance renewable energy where it demonstrably lowers costs and improves resilience, without imposing unsustainable capital burdens on households and businesses.



Decision Guiding

Guide energy decisions by their impact on the cost of living, competitiveness, and long-term fiscal health.

Communication & Public Trust



Clear Communication

Communicate clearly and consistently during service disruptions.



Timely Updates

Provide timely public updates so households and businesses can plan and adjust.

8

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

Success will be measured by fewer surprises and shorter disruptions in everyday life. Water will run when expected, transport will arrive reliably, and roads and sanitation services will be maintained proactively rather than left to fail and then repaired in crisis. Households and businesses will be able to plan their days with confidence, no longer forced to adjust constantly to system breakdowns. Across all parishes, basic services will operate predictably and fairly, restoring a sense of dignity and reinforcing trust that government can be relied upon to deliver the essentials competently and consistently.

RELIABLE ESSENTIALS,
FROM RUNNING WATER TO CONSISTENT
TRANSPORT, **MAINTAINED**
PROACTIVELY TO END
THE CYCLE OF DISRUPTIONS AND
RESTORE TRUST IN A
GOVERNMENT THAT DELIVERS
FOR EVERY PARISH.



A NEW CONTRACT FOR AGRICULTURE

Food security & resilience over dependency

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

Food security, pricing volatility, climate risk, and youth disengagement threaten national resilience. **Barbadians are increasingly concerned about the country's dependence on imported food**, rising grocery bills, vulnerability to global shocks, and the long-term viability of farming as a livelihood.

Farmers speak of unstable income, high input costs, water access challenges, praedial larceny, and limited market access. Young people see agriculture as risky, under-supported, and disconnected from modern opportunity. Barbadians are calling for a food system that is productive, protected, technologically enabled, and treated as a national priority.

The people want food sovereignty through a modern, protected agricultural system that ensures stable prices and a viable future for local farmers.

THE DLP COMMITS TO:



Treating food security as national security



Reducing import dependence by rebuilding domestic production



Protecting farmers, fishers, and agricultural land as national assets



Using procurement, finance, and technology to stabilise income and supply

OUR MANDATE

National Food Security & Land Protection

 **“Produce or Perish” Mandate**
Reduce food imports structurally, not rhetorically, adopting “Produce or Perish” as national policy, treating food security as national security, protecting agricultural land, and enforcing against praedial larceny to secure domestic production capacity.

 **Climate-Smart Investment**
Invest in climate-smart production and water security, supporting modern, efficient,

and resilient farming systems that reduce vulnerability to climate shocks and rising costs.

 **Unified Policy Coordination**
Coordinate agriculture, water, energy, and trade policy, ensuring food security decisions are aligned across government and not undermined by competing policy choices.

 **Public Progress Tracking**
Publish regular food security and import-reduction metrics, allowing the public to track progress toward reduced import dependence and increased domestic production.

Agricultural Water & Infrastructure

 **Water Tariff Reform**
Expand irrigation infrastructure and protect plantation wells, removing GSC tax impacts on irrigation, reversing increased water tariffs for farmers, and restoring pre-2022 IRDP water rates.

 **Tax Reversal**
Reversing abstraction taxes on agricultural wells, introducing dedicated agricultural water tariffs enabled by smart metering, and requiring mandatory drip irrigation standards for new commercial farms.

 **Agri-Tech Zones**
Establish Agri-Tech Innovation Zones including vertical and indoor farming clusters to modernize domestic production capacity.

Financial Reform & Risk Management



Debt Relief Strategy

Reform agricultural finance, debt, and institutions, writing off 50 percent of agricultural debt owed to the Enterprise Growth Fund, Fund Access, and the Agricultural Development Fund.



Institutional Financing

Enabling the Central Bank to buy agricultural debt and monetise long-term bonds from wound-up entities.



Income Stabilization

Stabilise farm income and manage risk, using credit, insurance, and price mechanisms, introducing parametric crop insurance with automatic weather-triggered payouts, and establishing a rules-based price stabilisation buffer fund with clear caps and triggers.

Institutional & Market Modernization



Statutory Coordination

Establish a National Agriculture Transformation Council as a statutory coordinating body.



Agency Refocus

Reforming the BADMC to concentrate on food production, product innovation, and national procurement, and establishing a Barbados Trade Management Corporation to assume State Trading Enterprise functions.



Digital Platforms

Launching a National Digital Agriculture Platform for real-time pricing and demand signals and re-implementing the Market Information System alongside the Agricultural Commodities Trading Platform.



Supply Chain Capacity

Build production capacity, processing, and technology, by constructing agro-processing and cold-chain capacity and re-establishing Pack House facilities.

Market Access & Local Sourcing

Mandatory Sourcing Targets

Implement mandatory local sourcing starting at 50 percent immediately and rising to 80 percent within ten years, applying these requirements to the QEH, geriatric hospitals, psychiatric hospital, and school meals.

Commercial Tax Credits

Introducing local sourcing tax credits of 20 percent for hotels and restaurants using 60 percent local inputs and 20 percent for manufacturers.

Trade & Production Security

Anti-Dumping Measures

Introduce Counter-dumping measures against subsidised food imports and implement a Variable import tax regime to protect domestic producers during peak production.

Welfare Integration

Link welfare, consumption, and local food systems, tying welfare vouchers to local produce purchases and introducing a swipe card system for local food purchases via the “National Family Support Program.”

National “Buy Local” Card

Provide a 10 percent subsidy or points for buying local through a new national card system.

Praedial Larceny Prosecution

Prevent and prosecute praedial larceny by repealing the Agricultural Product Protection Act, establishing praedial larceny wardens, and providing duty-free security cameras and drones for farmers.

Youth Agribusiness

Launch a Youth Agribusiness Incubator and position agriculture as a modern, technology-enabled career pathway with real income potential.

Fisheries & The Blue Economy



Fleet Reliability

Improve transport fleet reliability and service standards by upgrading maintenance regimes to reduce breakdowns and service gaps.



Predictable Service

Ensure transport services operate predictably across all parishes.



Utility Coordination

Improve coordination between road works, drainage, and utility providers to reduce repeated disruptions.

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

More of the food on Barbadian tables will be grown and caught here at home, at prices that are stable and predictable. Reduced dependence on imports will strengthen the economy and protect households from sudden global shocks. Farmers and fishers will earn viable, dignified incomes from their work, supported by fair markets and modern infrastructure. Young people will see agriculture and fisheries as respected, forward-looking careers, innovative, skilled, and full of opportunity. The food system will no longer expose vulnerability, but instead strengthen national resilience, security, and confidence in Barbados's future.

A RESILIENT BARBADOS WHERE
**BAJAN TABLES ARE FED
BY BAJAN SOIL AND SEAS.**
SHIELDING FAMILIES FROM PRICE
SHOCKS AND OFFERING OUR YOUTH
**INNOVATIVE, DIGNIFIED
CAREERS IN A SECURE
FUTURE.**

10 A NEW CONTRACT FOR COMMERCE

Small business, work, and enterprise

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

Red tape, late government payments, uneven access to finance, and opaque procurement systems hold small businesses back. Entrepreneurs describe a system where **effort is high but rewards are uncertain**, and where informal work becomes a survival strategy rather than a stepping stone to growth.

Many businesses feel locked out of opportunity, competing with larger firms for contracts, waiting months for payment, or navigating licensing and compliance processes that are slow, duplicative, and costly. **Barbadians want a business environment where initiative is rewarded, rules are clear, and growth is achievable.**

The people want an equitable marketplace that removes bureaucratic barriers and ensures fair, timely rewards for local enterprise and initiative.

THE DLP COMMITS TO:



Making it easier to start, operate, and grow a business fairly



Paying small businesses on time and treating them as partners



Using public procurement to expand opportunity, not entrench access



Supporting enterprise that creates jobs, exports, and value at home

OUR MANDATE

SME Support & Procurement Efficiency

Procurement Efficiency

Reduce duplication across agencies and shorten approval timelines, guaranteeing procurement access targets for SMEs, ensuring transparent criteria and predictable tender processes, and enforcing timely government payments to suppliers and contractors.

SME Formalization

Simplify entry, licensing, and compliance for small and medium-sized enterprises, creating clear, predictable pathways from informal to formal enterprise so businesses can grow without unnecessary friction.

Strategic Local Procurement

Use public procurement strategically to expand opportunities for local businesses, treating delayed government payment as a barrier to growth and a direct risk to jobs and enterprise survival.

National Development Financing

Sovereign Investment Fund

Establish a National Investment and Development Fund, sovereign wealth-style, to support long-term productive investment, monetising domestic components of public-private partnerships via the Central Bank, investing equivalent foreign exchange into the Fund, and using project revenues to retire Central Bank financing.

BIDB Mandate

Establish the Barbados Investment & Development Bank (BIDB) as a national, non-deposit-taking development institution mandated to support manufacturing, primary agriculture, value-added production, renewable energy, digitisation, AI and automation, cultural industries, environmental sustainability, solid-waste management, and tourism linkages.

Export & Import Support

Use of development banking to support export-earning and import-replacing SMEs, strengthening foreign exchange resilience.



Productivity Alignment

Create Alignment of enterprise support with national productivity objectives, ensuring funding flows to firms that raise output and value-added.



Skills-Enterprise Linkage

Integrate of SME support with education and training pipelines, linking skills to enterprise demand.



Institutional Consolidation

Wind up and absorb the Enterprise Growth Fund, Fund Access, the Agricultural Development Fund, and the Housing Credit Fund into the BIDB, creating a single, coherent development finance architecture with clearer mandates and stronger delivery.

Innovation & Skills Ecosystem



National Innovation Ecosystem

Build a national innovation, entrepreneurship, and skills ecosystem, establishing a National Science, Innovation & Technology Centre, promoting collaboration with UWI, BCC, and SJPI, supporting AI, robotics, and applied research facilities, and

establishing startup incubators with targeted funding support.



Local Mentorship

Strengthen mentorship and enterprise development at the local level, establishing Parish-level Business Mentorship Centres, engaging retired executives as paid mentors, and providing practical guidance in finance, operations, exports, and scaling.

Community & Decentralized Development



Community Service Decentralization

Decentralise enterprise and service delivery through community-based development, rebranding constituency councils as Community Development Service Centres (CDSCs), providing \$300,000 in annual funding per constituency, establishing 12-member management

committees with operational autonomy and audit oversight, and delivering Constituency Conservation Services including debushing, drainage, lighting, elderly support, and community sport.



Private Philanthropy Mobilization

Mobilise private support for community development, enabling 50 percent tax-deductible donations from businesses to strengthen local services and community-led initiatives.

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

Businesses will be growing instead of stagnating, competing fairly in an environment that rewards effort rather than access. Entrepreneurs will move from survival to scale, supported to build, hire, and export with confidence. Jobs will be created locally and sustainably, rooted in real production and real demand. Communities will feel the benefits of enterprise and investment directly, as opportunity spreads beyond a few hands or places. The business environment will once again value innovation, responsibility, and hard work, giving Barbadians a reason to invest their time, skills, and belief at home.

A FAIR MARKET WHERE EFFORT BEATS ACCESS, **CREATING SUSTAINABLE JOBS** ROOTED IN BAJAN DEMAND AND ENSURING THAT **HARD WORK LEADS TO REAL SUCCESS FOR EVERY COMMUNITY.**

11 A NEW CONTRACT FOR ECOLOGY

Affordable Power. Real Resilience. Practical Sustainability.

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

Barbadians face rising energy and environmental costs—seen in monthly bills, price increases, and future uncertainty. High electricity costs impact household budgets, food prices, and business viability, yet the **public lacks transparency on energy decisions**. Climate change is now a reality, experienced through severe weather, flooding, erosion, and heat stress. There is concern that **environmental policy is driven by unrealistic targets, not Barbados’s economic and physical realities**. Citizens demand climate responsibility, but also affordability, reliability, and common sense, calling for policies that reduce costs, strengthen resilience, and protect the nation without imposing unrealistic burdens.

The people want affordable resilience through practical energy and climate policies that lower daily costs while protecting the nation’s future.

THE DLP COMMITS TO:



Keeping energy policy focused on affordability and reliability



Reducing energy-driven inflation that pressures households and businesses



Building climate resilience that protects lives, infrastructure, and finances



Using environmental responsibility as a practical economic advantage

OUR MANDATE

Strategic Energy & Inflation Control

-  **Affordability–First Strategy**
 Expand renewable energy within a balanced national energy strategy, ensuring that all energy decisions prioritise affordability, reliability, and national resilience, while actively reducing energy-driven inflation that raises the cost of living and undermines business competitiveness.
-  **Pragmatic Energy Mix**
 Reject rigid, one-size-fits-all renewable targets where they impose unrealistic costs or risks, including a 100 percent renewables target by 2030–35, and instead pursue a pragmatic energy mix tailored to Barbados’s economic scale, grid capacity, and fiscal realities.

Diversified Power Generation

-  **Diversified Energy Portfolio**
 Pursue a diversified energy mix that includes: Biomass, Waste-to-energy, Fossil fuels where necessary for stability and transition, and Renewables where they demonstrably lower costs and strengthen resilience.

-  **Energy as Anti-Inflation Tool**
 Use energy policy as a cost-of-living intervention, explicitly linking energy planning to household affordability, business competitiveness, and inflation control rather than treating energy policy as a standalone technical exercise.
-  **Efficiency as Cost-Reduction**
 Improve energy efficiency as a system-wide cost-reduction tool, expanding efficiency incentives across households, businesses, and public facilities, and aligning efficiency programmes with national cost-of-living, productivity, and competitiveness goals.

-  **Waste-to-Energy Solution**
 Advance waste-to-energy as both an environmental and energy-security solution, integrating waste management into national energy planning and constructing a 50MW waste-to-energy plant to reduce landfill pressure while stabilising electricity supply.



Industrial Cogeneration

Develop strategic energy-linked industrial projects, including a PPP multipurpose factory at Andrews supporting high-test molasses, sugar processing, cogeneration, and a 30MW bagasse biomass plant.



Renewable Capacity Expansion

Develop additional domestic renewable capacity, including an East Coast wind farm, subject to environmental, technical, and cost-effectiveness assessments.



Strategic Exploration

Pursue oil and gas exploration via public-private partnerships, subject to national interest tests, environmental safeguards, and strict risk-management criteria, ensuring any exploration supports national resilience rather than speculative exposure.

Climate Resilience & Infrastructure



Resilience as Safeguard

Invest in climate-resilient energy, waste, and environmental infrastructure, designing systems to withstand extreme weather, rising temperatures, and supply disruptions, and treating resilience as a long-term economic and fiscal safeguard rather than an optional add-on.



Industrial Support

Use industrial energy projects (biomass, cogeneration, waste-to-energy) to support both resilience and domestic production.



Circular Economy & Environmental Management

Circular Economy Industries

Strengthen environmental management through circular-economy industries, developing a PPP tyre-recycling industry and establishing Crumb Rubber Modified Bitumen (CRMB) production.

Strategic CRMB Deployment

Deploy CRMB strategically to extend infrastructure life and reduce costs, including its use in roads, roofing, noise reduction, and waterproofing.

Practical Economic Advantage

Use circular-economy initiatives to reduce waste, extend asset life, and lower long-term infrastructure and maintenance costs, turning environmental responsibility into a practical economic advantage.

Governance & Accountability

Transparent Evaluation

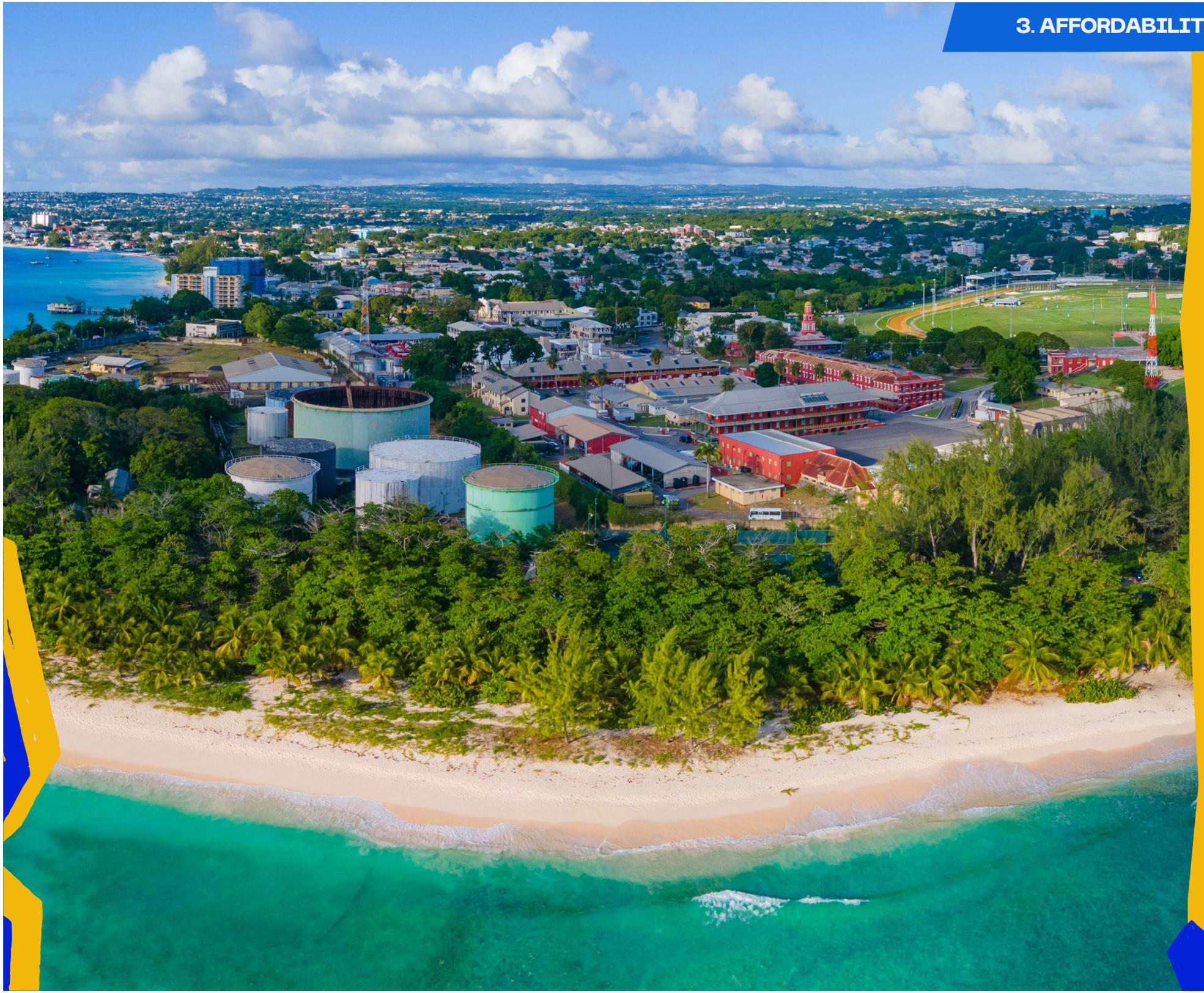
Ensure energy, environment, and climate policy are governed transparently, with clear project evaluation, public reporting, and accountability for cost, performance, and long-term impact.

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

11

Lower and more stable energy costs will ease pressure on households and businesses alike, making planning possible again. Barbados will be better shielded from global shocks and climate risk through systems built for resilience, not headlines. Landfills will face less strain as waste is reduced, reused, and turned into value rather than left to pollute communities and coastlines. Energy and environmental systems will work with the economy, supporting growth, jobs, and competitiveness instead of undermining them. The transition ahead will be realistic and affordable, grounded firmly in Barbados's economic capacity and physical realities, so progress feels steady, fair, and sustainable.

**STABLE ENERGY COSTS AND
RESILIENT SYSTEMS
THAT SHIELD US
FROM GLOBAL
SHOCKS, TURNING WASTE
INTO VALUE WHILE FUELING
SUSTAINABLE JOBS AND STEADY,
FAIR PROGRESS
FOR ALL.**



12 A NEW CONTRACT FOR DIPLOMACY

Serving home first

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

Many Barbadians feel foreign policy benefits lack domestic visibility, questioning if international engagement yields tangible benefits like jobs or lower costs. They sense **Barbados engages widely but captures too little value.**

As a small island state, Barbadians recognize the necessity of international connection via trade, tourism, and regional cooperation. They seek a balanced foreign policy prioritizing the domestic economy, foreign exchange earnings, and local enterprise—favoring quiet, effective diplomacy that delivers **tangible domestic benefits over mere symbolic visibility abroad.**

The people want tangible domestic results from global engagement, prioritizing local economic gain and lower costs over international visibility.

THE DLP COMMITS TO:



Anchoring foreign policy in clear domestic benefit



Using trade, tourism, and diplomacy to earn and retain foreign exchange



Strengthening connectivity as economic infrastructure, not symbolism



Ensuring international engagement serves Barbados first, visibly and measurably

OUR MANDATE

Foreign Policy Anchored in Domestic Benefit

-  **Transparent International Agreements**
 Ensure transparent international agreements, with clear public explanations of costs, benefits, and obligations.
-  **Domestic Benefit Delivery**
 Ensure foreign engagement delivers visible and measurable domestic benefit, particularly in jobs, skills transfer, foreign exchange earnings, and local enterprise development.

Tourism as a Driver of Local Value

-  **Integration and Leakage Reduction**
 Reduce foreign exchange leakage by integrating tourism more deeply with agriculture, culture, transport, and local enterprise.
-  **Value-Based Tourism Model**
 Shift the tourism model from volume to value, prioritising higher-quality experiences, stronger local linkages, and greater retention of visitor spending.

-  **Alignment with National Priorities**
 Align foreign policy, trade, and investment with national development priorities, ensuring diplomacy serves economic resilience, not symbolism.
-  **Diplomacy as an Economic Tool**
 Treat diplomacy as an economic tool, using international relationships to open markets, attract productive investment, and protect Barbados's strategic interests.
-  **Heritage and Cultural Expansion**
 Expand heritage routes and cultural tourism, ensuring communities, creatives, and small businesses benefit directly from tourism growth.
-  **Community Tourism Support**
 Support community tourism models, allowing locally owned enterprises to participate meaningfully in the visitor economy.
-  **High-Value Segments**
 Develop conference tourism as a year-round, high-value segment and promote medical and wellness tourism as growth areas aligned with Barbados's health, climate, and professional strengths.

Connectivity as Economic Infrastructure

- Integrated Infrastructure Planning**
Integrate transport, ports, and trade infrastructure into national planning, ensuring connectivity decisions support economic diversification and resilience.

- Air and Sea Connectivity**
Improve air and sea connectivity to support trade, tourism, and national resilience.

- Regional Logistics Hub**
Develop Barbados as a logistics and services hub for the Eastern Caribbean, strengthening regional supply chains and export capacity.

Tourism, Ports, and Logistics Transformation

- Cruise Complex Development**
Develop a new cruise complex designed to maximise local economic participation and establish a cruise facility in Speightstown, spreading tourism benefits more evenly across the island.

- Bridgetown Port Conversion**
Convert the Bridgetown Port to cargo-only operations, improving efficiency and logistics capacity.

- Northern Trade Infrastructure**
Develop a cargo airport in St. Lucy to support exports, logistics, and regional trade.

- Central Logistics Hub**
Establish a central logistics hub to improve warehousing, distribution, and trade facilitation.

Fisheries and the Blue Economy

- Offshore Capacity and Viability**
Incentivise fishing vessels over 24 metres to expand offshore capacity and export earnings,

and reduce fuel tax for fishing vessels to 20 cents per litre to improve viability and competitiveness.

- Sector Professionalization**
Professionalise the fishing sector, including diploma and certification requirements for boat captains.

 **Value Retention Infrastructure**
Construct a state-of-the-art ice plant to reduce spoilage and increase value retention.

 **Harbour and Facility Upgrades**
Develop a modern tertiary fishing harbour to support safety, efficiency, and export readiness, and upgrade fisheries complexes to modern standards.

 **Operational Reliability**
Establish a dedicated Maintenance Department within the Fisheries Division to protect public investment and ensure operational reliability.

Governance, Skills, and Data-Driven Trade

 **Bureaucratic Streamlining**
Accelerate approvals for small tourism and fisheries operators, reducing bureaucratic barriers to entry and growth.

 **Data-Driven Strategies**
Implement data-driven tourism marketing strategies, using real-time analytics and visitor spending analytics to guide investment, product development, and marketing decisions.

 **Leakage and Sustainability Metrics**
Track tourism foreign exchange leakage through formal metrics, enabling evidence-based policy correction, and introduce conservation fees to support environmental sustainability and site management.

 **Skills and Certification**
Establish continuous hospitality certification and digital skills training, raising service quality and career mobility.

Diaspora Engagement



Skills and Knowledge Transfer

Engage the diaspora for skills, knowledge transfer, and investment, leveraging global Barbadian networks.



Structured Development Partnerships

Position the diaspora as partners in national development, creating structured pathways for contribution rather than symbolic engagement.

Strategic Sector Treatment



Economic Sector Prioritization

Explicit treatment of tourism, fisheries, and logistics as foreign exchange-earning sectors, not lifestyle industries.



Analytical Decision Making

Use of data and analytics to guide tourism marketing, approvals, and investment decisions.



Regional Resilience Positioning

Positioning of Barbados as a regional logistics and services hub, strengthening trade resilience.

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

Success will mean a foreign policy that strengthens the domestic economy, not one that exists only on paper or at conferences abroad. Connectivity will move goods, people, and ideas efficiently, opening real pathways for trade, investment, and opportunity. Tourism will create value that stays in Barbados, supporting local businesses, workers, culture, and communities instead of leaking away. The blue economy will offer dignified work, modern skills, and reliable export earnings for Barbadians connected to the sea. Trade and diplomacy will serve Barbados first, visibly, measurably, and in ways that people can see in jobs created, costs reduced, and opportunities expanded at home.

TRADE AND DIPLOMACY THAT
SERVE BARBADOS FIRST—
**VISIBLY CREATING
JOBS, REDUCING
HOUSEHOLD COSTS, AND
TRANSFORMING TOURISM**
INTO A LOCAL ENGINE THAT POWERS
EVERY WORKER, BUSINESS, AND
COMMUNITY.

10 A NEW CONTRACT FOR CULTURAL IDENTITY

Opportunity, identity, and belonging

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

Young Barbadians face **uncertainty transitioning from school to meaningful work and independence**. Talent identification is often late, support fragmented, and opportunities depend more on access than ability, **leaving many feeling disconnected**. Meanwhile, Barbadians recognize the historical power of sport and culture in fostering identity, discipline, confidence, and community. **People are demanding a unified approach** that integrates youth, sport, and culture as vital tools for national development and social stability, rather than fragmented side programs.

The people want coordinated pathways that turn youth talent into professional success and use sport and culture to anchor national stability and purpose.

THE DLP COMMITS TO:



Treating youth development as a whole-of-government responsibility



Using sport and culture as pathways to discipline, opportunity, and community cohesion



Expanding access to skills, mentorship, and structured progression for all young people



Ensuring talent and potential are supported regardless of background or parish

OUR MANDATE

Youth Development as a National System

- 
Skills and Pathways
 Enhance and expand national skills training programmes, with clear pathways and annexes linked to labour-market demand.
- 
National Youth Advance Corps
 Nationalise and strengthen the Youth Advance Corps to support young people without certification, ensuring structured progression into training, work, or further education.
- 
Evidence-Based Framework
 Develop an evidence-based national youth development framework grounded in current research and data.

Mentorship, Values, and Civic Responsibility

- 
Structured Mentorship
 Establish structured national mentorship programmes linking young people with professionals, artisans, athletes, and cultural practitioners.
- 
Curricular Integration
 Embed values, social norms, and civic responsibility

- 
Inter-Ministerial Coordination
 Establish youth policy officers across ministries to ensure youth considerations are embedded in programme and policy design.
 - 
Institutional Alignment
 Connect all ministries with responsibility for youth development to ensure coordination, shared outcomes, and accountability.
 - 
Data-Driven Reform
 Use evidence-based youth policy design, using data and research to guide investment and reform.
 - 
Performance Accountability
 Implement clear performance measures to assess participation, progression, and outcomes across youth initiatives.
-
- more deliberately within the school curriculum and youth programmes.
- 
Community Organization Support
 Sponsor and support youth-based community organisations that provide safe spaces, leadership development, and positive role models.
 - 
At-Risk Family Support
 Provide direct support for families in at-risk communities where youth presence is high and pressures are greatest.

Sports as Development, Not Just Recreation

-  **National Sports Programme**
Establish a coordinated National Sports Programme to expand access, improve facilities, and support athlete development across disciplines.
-  **Engagement and Discipline**
Use sport as a tool for youth engagement, discipline, teamwork, and leadership, particularly in communities facing social risk.

-  **Talent Pathways**
Strengthen school–community–club pathways so talent is identified early and developed consistently.
-  **Support for Development Professionals**
Support coaches, officials, and volunteers through training, certification, and incentives, recognising their role in youth development.
-  **Resilience Integration**
Integrate sport, culture, and youth programmes as instruments of prevention and community resilience.

Culture as Identity, Industry, and Opportunity

-  **Economic Sector Treatment**
Treat culture as both a source of national identity and a viable economic sector.
- Creative Entrepreneurship**
Support cultural practitioners, creatives, and community festivals as pathways to skills development, entrepreneurship, and income generation.

-  **Strategic Integration**
Integrate culture more deliberately into tourism, education, and community development strategies.
-  **Heritage and Innovation**
Preserve and promote Barbados’s cultural heritage while creating space for contemporary expression and innovation.

The Intersection of Youth, Sport, and Culture

-  **Integrated Prevention Tools**
 Use integrated sports and cultural programmes as tools for crime prevention, community cohesion, and youth empowerment.
-  **Development Pathways**
 Design programmes that combine skills training, sport, cultural expression, and mentorship into structured development pathways.

Skills, Work, and Entrepreneurship

-  **Adult Education Formalization**
 Formalise continuous and adult education as part of the broader education and skills system.
-  **Programme Streamlining**
 Streamline youth programmes to reduce duplication, clarify target groups, and define expected outcomes and outputs.

-  **Leadership Inclusion**
 Embed youth voices in leadership, programme design, and evaluation across sport and cultural initiatives.
-  **Outcome Tracking**
 Establish a dedicated research and data function, in conjunction with other ministries, to track outcomes and guide continuous improvement.

-  **Innovation Support**
 Support and strengthen agencies that promote youth entrepreneurship, innovation, and enterprise.
-  **Apprenticeship Incentives**
 Introduce targeted tax incentives for paid apprenticeships in priority sectors, linking training directly to employment.

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

13

Young people will see clearer pathways from education into work, enterprise, and community leadership. Sport and culture will be recognised not as extras, but as essential tools for discipline, identity, and opportunity. Communities will be stronger and more connected, with youth engagement reducing risk and expanding possibility. Across Barbados, talent will be identified earlier, supported more fairly, and developed more consistently—allowing young people to contribute confidently to national life and to build futures rooted in dignity, purpose, and belonging.

EMPOWERED YOUTH MOVING
CONFIDENTLY **FROM**
CLASSROOMS TO
CAREERS, SUPPORTED BY
FAIR TALENT DEVELOPMENT AND
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TO
LEAD LIVES DEFINED
BY OPPORTUNITY AND
NATIONAL PRIDE.



OUR PLEDGE TO BARBADOS

GOVERNING WITH PURPOSE, POWER & PROOF

At its core, government is the **exercise of power on your behalf**. How that power is used, whether to hide the truth or to reveal it, to serve the few or the many, determines the **soul of a nation**.

Barbadians are not asking for perfection. You are asking for a government that is clear in purpose, honest about limits, and serious about consequences.

OUR PLEDGE TO YOU

WRITE LAWS THAT MAKE SENSE

Ensure laws are clear, coherent, and enforceable, written to serve you, not to confuse you.

RESTORE REAL OVERSIGHT

Strengthen scrutiny so parliament genuinely holds power accountable, not just rubber-stamps secret decisions.

CHECK OUR WORK

Introduce checks to ensure laws actually work as intended in real life, and to honestly correct them if they do not.

PROTECT SAFETY WITH DIGNITY

We pledge to modernise public order laws to keep communities safe while strictly respecting your individual dignity and rights.

THE FINAL WORD

This Contract is not a shopping list of slogans.
It is a tool for you to use.

Success will not be measured by speeches,
but by a country where governance feels
earned. It will be measured by a Parliament that
debates with purpose, institutions that explain
themselves, and a government that treats you
as a participant, not a spectator.

**We are ready to work. We are ready to listen.
And we are ready to lead.**

This is the Contract. This is the commitment. And
this is the standard by which a DLP Government
asks to be judged.

**SIGNED,
THE DEMOCRATIC LABOUR PARTY**
For the People of Barbados



MAKE YOUR MARK. PUT BARBADOS FIRST

Your Vote is Your Voice. Here is how to use it.

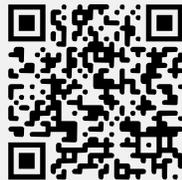
GET READY

CHECK YOUR
REGISTRATION



Ensure you are
on the list.

LOCATE YOUR
POLLING STATION



Enter your
Full Name, and (NRN)

GRAB
YOUR ID



Bring your Valid
National ID Card

ELECTION DAY

February 11, 2026

GO EARLY



Polls are open from
6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

LOCATE YOUR
POLLING STATION



Polls are open from
6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

IN THE BOOTH

MARK THE X

USE THE
PENCIL



Proceed to the
booth to mark your
paper secretly.

LOOK FOR
DLP



Find the name
of your DLP
Candidate.

MARK ONE X:



Place a single "X"
clearly in the box next
to the candidate of
your choice.

CAST YOUR VOTE

FOLD IT



Fold the ballot
paper so your
vote is hidden.

SHOW IT



Show the back of the
folded paper to the
Officer so they can
verify the official mark.

BOX IT



Place your
folded ballot
into the sealed
ballot box.