People's Manifesto

ST. ANDREW NORTH-WEST

You. Me. Us Shaping the Next Five years

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A MESSAGE FROM DELMA THOMAS

"I believe that the people of St. Andrew North-West must continue to have a meaningful voice in shaping the decisions that affect their communities."

DELMA THOMAS
CANDIDATE FOR
ST ANDREW NORTH-WEST

My fellow residents of St. Andrew North-West

Over the past several weeks, I have listened carefully to residents across our communities about the challenges you face and, just as importantly, the opportunities you believe exist for our constituency's future.

From our farmers and small business owners to our young people, parents, seniors, and community leaders, I have heard a common message: St. Andrew North-West has tremendous potential, but we must do more to ensure this potential translates into meaningful opportunities for the people who call this constituency home. Residents spoke about infrastructure that needs attention, concerns about access to essential services, and the need for safer, better-maintained communities.

You want to protect our agricultural lands and bring them back into production. You want greater support for farmers, stronger agro-processing and manufacturing, better opportunities for small businesses, and practical skills training that prepares our young people for work and enterprise. You recognize that our constituency has valuable resources, from its fertile agricultural lands and experienced farmers to its talented young people, natural assets, and strong community networks. These resources present opportunities to build a more productive and diversified local economy. Our farmers should have better access to the land, infrastructure, equipment, and markets they need to increase production. Our agricultural sector should be supported by greater investment in agro-processing, allowing more of what we grow to be transformed into finished products, creating additional value, supporting local enterprise and opening new opportunities for employment. Our young people should have access to education, technical training, apprenticeships and entrepreneurship programmes that equip them with the skills to participate in a changing economy. Those who wish to pursue agriculture, establish businesses or develop their talents should have practical pathways to do so.

You also made it clear that development must reach every community.

Whether it is improving access to healthcare, upgrading community facilities, strengthening recreational opportunities, or addressing the needs of our elderly and vulnerable residents, progress must be reflected in the everyday lives of our people. Our villages must remain places where families can live with dignity, where young people can see a future for themselves, and where residents can access the services and opportunities they need without feeling they must leave their communities to succeed.

This manifesto reflects those priorities.

It brings together the concerns, ideas and aspirations shared by residents throughout our consultations. It recognises that improving our roads, bridges and drainage systems is essential, but that infrastructure development must also support a broader vision for economic growth, community development and opportunity. It is about addressing the immediate needs of our communities while preparing St. Andrew North-West for the future: a future where more of our land is productive, more of our people are equipped with skills, and more businesses, jobs and opportunities are created within the constituency. It is a vision in which agriculture is connected to manufacturing, education to employment, and community development to the economic well-being of our people. Achieving this vision will require sustained effort, responsible planning and meaningful collaboration among residents, farmers, businesses, community organisations and public institutions.

I have heard your concerns and your ideas, and I remain committed to being present, accessible and focused on the work ahead. I believe that the people of St. Andrew North-West must continue to have a meaningful voice in shaping the decisions that affect their communities.

Delma Thomas
CANDIDATE FOR ST ANDREW NORTH-WEST

A CONSTITUENCY WHERE OUR LAND IS PRODUCTIVE, OUR PEOPLE ARE SKILLED, AND MORE OPPORTUNITY IS CREATED RIGHT HERE AT HOME.

OUR VISION FOR ST. ANDREW NORTH-WEST

St. Andrew North-West has tremendous economic potential.

Our productive agricultural land, experienced farmers, talented young people, strong communities and natural assets provide a foundation for economic growth. The opportunity now is to connect these strengths, expand local enterprise and create more value within the constituency.

Residents called for agricultural lands to be protected and returned to production through a Land Bank, improved farm access, agricultural training and greater support for those seeking to enter the sector.

But the vision extends beyond growing and harvesting crops

North-West has tremendous economic potential.

From produce to product. The constituency can support a stronger agro-processing and manufacturing sector — turning fruits and other agricultural produce into finished products, supporting farmer cooperatives and creating businesses and jobs around what we grow. Residents specifically proposed fruit-processing facilities, stronger manufacturing and greater protection and support for local producers.

Skills that lead directly to opportunity. Technical and vocational training, construction skills, agriculture education, sports development and stronger pathways for young people who may not follow a traditional academic route can create a workforce prepared for the opportunities of the future.

Natural assets that earn. Places such as Claboney Spring and La Case can be developed in ways that create opportunities for local vendors, entrepreneurs and communities.

Foundations that make development possible. Safer bridges and roads, better drainage, community facilities, improved access to health services and government services closer to home. Community infrastructure was the single largest category of priorities raised during the consultations.

The vision is therefore bigger than fixing what is broken. It is about putting land to work, turning skills into livelihoods, turning agriculture into enterprise and creating more opportunities for people to build their future in St Andrew North-West.

WHAT THAT MEANS IN PRACTICE

Agricultural lands back in production

A Land Bank for absentee-owned land, farmland protected from housing, and farm roads that reach the fields.

Produce turned into product

A fruit processing station, farmer co-operatives, and manufacturing built around what is in season.

Skills with a job at the end

GNTA training in schools, a construction and trades programme, and equipment in the schools already teaching technical subjects.

Bridges that carry an ambulance

The five bridges rebuilt, fall edges railed, and drainage that keeps water out of people's yards.

A centre the community owns

Government-owned centres, pavilions and courts — starting where the buildings belong to someone else.

Services inside the parish

Licence printing, a court registry, and health centres equipped so people stop travelling for the basics.

PILLAR 1

LAND BACK IN PRODUCTION

Agriculture emerged as a major priority throughout the constituency consultations. Residents raised concerns about prime agricultural land being converted to housing, unused land remaining out of production, and poor farm roads limiting access to their fields. They called for greater access to land, reliable water supplies, agricultural training and stronger support for livestock production. Their priorities reflect a broader vision for St. Andrew North-West: protecting our agricultural resources, increasing local food production and creating more opportunities for people to earn a sustainable livelihood from the land.

WE WILL

YEAR 1	Establish a Land Bank that pools absentee-owned land and leases it to farmers who will work it
YEAR 1	Introduce legislation to protect prime agricultural land from residential development.
YEAR 1	Continue and complete priority improvements to GrandFur and Cherry Hill farm roads, improving access to agricultural lands.
YEAR 1–2	Restore vehicular access along Claboney Spring Road to support farmers, with further upgrades undertaken in phases as resources allow
YEAR 1–3	Establish a farm school and provide graduates with access to agricultural land, connecting practical training directly to production and enterprise.
YEAR 1	Improve water access for farmers and strengthen the Mirabeau Propagation Station with trained personnel to support agricultural production.
YEAR 1–2	Expand livestock production for milk and meat, with support for small producers
YEAR 2	Pursue integrated farming partnerships, including the proposed arrangement with China raised during consultations, to strengthen agricultural production and technical capacity.
YEAR 1	Introduce agricultural education at the primary school level and provide scholarships for specialised training in areas essential to the sectors.

PILLAR 2 10.7

FROM PRODUCE TO PRODUCT

Residents called for greater investment in agro-processing to reduce agricultural waste, increase the value of locally grown produce and create new opportunities for farmers and small businesses. They raised concerns about imported produce competing with local crops and called for stronger farmer co-operatives, improved market access and greater accountability in government-funded projects. They also identified opportunities to develop local attractions, improve vending facilities and ensure that economic development creates meaningful benefits for workers and communities.

WE WILL

YEAR 1–2	Develop a fruit-processing station to transform locally grown produce into juices, jams and other finished products.
YEAR 1–3	Support farmer co-operatives modeled on the GCNA and GCA, linking seasonal agricultural production to processing and market opportunities.
YEAR 1	Introduce measures to regulate the importation of dasheen, potatoes and other locally grown produce, in accordance with applicable trade obligations, to support local farmers
FIRST 100 DAYS	Establish a published payment standard to ensure local contractors are paid on time for constituency projects
YEAR 1	Assign qualified professionals to supervise government-funded projects and strengthen accountability for public expenditure.
YEAR 1–2	Upgrade Claboney Spring with sanitary facilities, food stalls and vendor space, and join the Claboney and Perine roads
YEAR 2–3	Develop La Case on the mountainside as a visitor attraction, creating opportunities for local vendors,guides and small businsess
YEAR 1	Review and increase wages for school cleaners and other low-paid workers who provide essential services in public institutions

PILLAR 3

SKILLS THAT LEAD TO WORK

Residents called for an education and training system that recognises different abilities and creates practical pathways to employment. They identified a shortage of skilled tradespersons, limited access to technical training and the difficulties young people face when seeking their first job without prior experience.They also called for greater support for children with learning challenges, adult education, sports development and opportunities for young people to gain practical experience. Their priorities reflect the need to connect education, skills development and employment so that more residents can build successful careers within the constituency.

WE WILL

YEAR 1	Introduce GNTA technical and vocational training in primary and secondary schools to identify and develop practical skills from an early age.
YEAR 1–2	Launch a construction and trades programme that trains and certifies tradespersons on live projects
YEAR 1–2	Install specialised equipment in the schools already teaching technical subjects to strengthen practical training.
YEAR 1	Reform educational support for children with different learning needs and abilities, ensuring access to appropriate teaching, vocational pathways, and specialized assistance.
FIRST 100 DAYS	Introduce adult literacy classes and structured skills development programmes for adults aged 30–60
YEAR 1	Create placements for young women graduating TAMCC and young men who are out of school, supporting success in scouting opportunities and sports scholarships.
YEAR 1	Implement a system to track athletes' performances and academic progress from primary school, supporting access to scouting opportunities and sports scholarships
YEAR 1–2	Upgrade the Sab playing field to premier league training standard and enhance proper management and development of local sporting clubs
YEAR 1	Introduce holiday work placement programmes for college students to gain practical experience and develop workplace skills

PILLAR 4

BRIDGES, ROADS AND SAFETY

Residents identified deteriorating bridges, unsafe roads and inadequate drainage as major concerns across the constituency. Five bridges received the highest priority ratings during consultations, reflecting the importance of reliable access for residents, farmers, businesses and emergency services. Concerns were also raised about the Paradise Bridge, a critical connection between St. Andrew and St. Patrick, and the difficulty emergency vehicles face when crossing narrow bridges at Petite Polo and Morne Longue. Residents called for safer road edges, improved drainage, better street lighting, and reliable public transportation infrastructure to protect lives and strengthen connectivity throughout the constituency.

WE WILL

YEARS 1–2	Complete the technical work, procurement, and construction of the five bridges rated most urgent - Beauregard, Paradise, Petite Polo, the bridge behind Paraclete School, and Dunfermline to Paraclete
YEAR 1	Develop an alternative route through Grand Bras to maintain connectivity between St. Andrew and St. Patrick in the event of a closure at Paradise Bridge
YEAR 1–3	Widen the Morne Longue bridge to accommodate emergency vehicles and heavy trucks, and widen and realign the bridge beneath the rock to improve road safety
YEAR 1	Stabilise the ravine beside the Mt. Horne bridge to reduce the risk of landslides and road closures
YEAR 1	Install railings along dangerous fall edges at Morne Lounge, Spring Garden and Cadrona, alongside drainage improvements to prevent runoff from entering residential areas
YEAR 1	Replace deteriorating water lines and reconstruct the road leading to Morne Longue to improve access and infrastructure reliability
YEAR 1–2	Construct and improve drainage systems along the Bye-lands-Mirabeau junction corridor and at Sab to reduce flooding and protect surrounding properties
YEAR 2–4	Undertake the major drainage works at the Balthazar centre as a phased, longer-term project, recognising the scale of the intervention required
YEAR 1	Extend solar lighting in Morne Longue, Paraclete pasture and the Byelands school yard, and install a traffic mirror at the school gap to improve visibility and safety
YEAR 1	Implement bus shelters at Spring Garden junction, Byelands and Morne Longue, and improve roads and village signage throughout.

PILLAR 5

A CENTRE IN EVERY COMMUNITY

Community facilities accounted for 36 of the 83 priorities raised during consultations, reflecting the need for accessible spaces where residents can learn, participate in recreational activities and strengthen community connections. Residents highlighted the absence of community centres in Paraclete and Dunfermline, as well as the need for publicly owned facilities in Byelands. They also called for existing centres to be repaired, equipped and made available for regular use. Their priorities reflect the importance of creating functional, accessible community spaces that support education, recreation and social development throughout the constituency.

WE WILL

YEAR 1–3	Secure a suitable site, complete planning and design, and begin the process toward construction of a community centre for Paraclete
YEAR 1–3	Pursue land acquisition or a long lease in Byelands and complete planning for a government-owned centre, pavilion, basketball court and a lit playing field. Recognising that securing suitable land may require a longer process, implementation will proceed as the land arrangements are resolved
YEAR 2–4	Plan secure funding and build a community centre for Dunfermline to provide a dedicated space for community activities
YEAR 1–2	Repair and reopen the Mirabeau Community Centre for educational programmes, skills training and community activities
YEAR 2–4	Undertake the major drainage works at Balthazar as a phased, longer-term project, recognising the scale of the intervention required
YEAR 1	Equip community centre with internet access, projectors and a published weekly timetable of skills classes and educational activities.
YEAR 2	Renovate the La Fillette nutmeg pool to restore it as a functional recreational facility for community use.
YEAR 1	Construct changing rooms and washrooms at the Byelands playing area, and fence the Sab field and Resource Centre
YEAR 1	Preserve WASH programme materials and establish a system to preserve and support improvements across multiple households.

PILLAR 6

SERVICES CLOSER TO HOME

Residents called for essential government, healthcare and administrative services to be more accessible within St. Andrew, reducing the need to travel outside the parish for routine transactions and specialised assistance.They identified gaps in driver's licence services, court administration, healthcare facilities and land registration, alongside concerns about hospital waiting times, ambulance response and support for vulnerable senior citizens. Their priorities reflect the need for more accessible, efficient, and responsive public services that meet residents' everyday needs.

WE WILL

YEAR 1–2	Introduce driver's licence printing services in St. Andrew, reducing the need for residents to travel outside the parish to obtain their licence.
YEAR 1–2	Establish a Supreme Court registry branch in St. Andrew to improve access to judicial and administrative services.
YEAR 1	Rebuild the Birchgrove Medical Centre and Police Station to strengthen healthcare delivery and public safety services.
YEAR 1–2	Expand and redesign the Grand Bras Health Centre to improve its capacity, functionality and delivery of healthcare services.
YEAR 1–2	Equip and upgrade health centers with appropriate medical equipment and diagnostic capabilities and improve ambulance response times to enhance access to emergency care.
YEAR 1–2	Address waiting times and service at Mirabeau Hospital, and construct the Mirabeau rehabilitation centre
YEAR 1	Increase the number of surveyors within the Land Unit to expedite land survey and title deed processing, improving residents' ability to access financing and other services
YEAR 1–2	Modernise government with user-friendly digital systems, and set rules for misleading AI content
YEAR 1	Run a care programme for senior citizens who have no family to look after them

PILLAR 7

REPRESENTATIVE WHO SHOWS UP

Residents identified the rising cost of living and the need for consistent, accessible representation as major priorities. They raised concerns about electricity bills, household expenses and transportation costs, while calling for greater access to financial support and opportunities to reduce everyday expenditure. They also emphasized the importance of regular constituency visits, meaningful community engagement and greater accountability in public service delivery. Their priorities reflect the need for practical measures that address household financial pressures while ensuring that residents have consistent opportunities to raise concerns and participate in decisions affecting their communities.

WE WILL

FIRST 100 DAYS	Hold regular constituency sessions across all five polling divisions, supported by a published schedule to ensure residents have consistent access to their representative.
YEAR 1	Create measures to reduce plastic waste and improve waste collection, disposal, and environmental management throughout the constituency
YEAR 2	Acquire abandoned properties and redistribute for eligible residents to access land and housing
YEAR 1	Organise regular community forums and provide financial literacy and legal education programmes across the constituency
YEAR 2	Advocate for expanded public transportation, including 24-hour service, and introduce support measures for bus operators to address vehicle maintenance costs and passenger
YEAR 1–2	Require succession planning within government ministries to ensure continuity of services and effective knowledge transfer when senior officers leave their positions.

TRACKING OUR PROGRESS

A PLAN ONLY MATTERS IF PEOPLE CAN SEE WHAT IS BEING DELIVERED.

The People's Manifesto will not end with its publication. We will use it as a working document to track the commitments made to your community over the next five years.

We will review progress against the priorities identified in the manifesto, with updates showing what has been completed, what is underway, and what still requires attention.

This will give residents a clear way to follow the work, see how priorities are advancing, and understand where progress is being made.

YOU HELPED SHAPE THE PLAN. YOU SHOULD ALSO BE ABLE TO SEE HOW IT IS BEING DELIVERED.

Online Progress Tracker

A dedicated website will list the commitments in the manifesto and show the status of each one — including what has been completed, what is in progress, and what is still to come.

Annual Community Review

Each year, we will return to the community to review progress, discuss what has been delivered, and hear directly from residents on what still needs attention.

YOU. M

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ME. US

THE NEXT EARS

ST. ANDREW NORTH-WEST

Thank you for your voices - all seven hundred and seventeen of them.

You. Me. US. Ready for More.

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