

Radikale Venstre Bornholm

Election Manifesto 2025

Radikale
Der er brug for en plan **B**

Table of Contents

A Campaign Without Empty Promises	3
A Municipal Economy in Balance	3
Attracting New Residents to a More Vibrant Island – Bornholm should be a place you choose	5
An Efficient and Responsive Municipality – for the benefit of citizens, businesses, and employees ..	6
Climate and Environment – Bornholm as a pioneer in the green transition	7
Healthier Bornholmers – prevention, community and freedom	8
Safe and Green Mobility – Bornholm for pedestrians, cyclists and communities	9
An Elder Policy Based on Respect and Care	10

A Campaign Without Empty Promises

Realistic Visions for Bornholm's Future

As Bornholmers prepare to vote in November, they deserve an election campaign without empty promises.

In the Danish Social Liberal Party (Radikale Venstre), we refuse to join the line of parties promising gold and green forests – because no party has a secret pile of money hidden away. Bornholm's regional municipality is facing an economic crisis, and it is our shared responsibility to deal with it.

For us, it is far more important to talk about **how we generate money**, rather than **how we spend it**. The first is difficult – the second is easy. That is why we will not promise gifts we cannot afford. On the contrary, we insist that candidates be honest: Bornholm faces several years of tough financial choices. Radikale Venstre will take responsibility. We are clear that savings are necessary – but they must be **fairly distributed** and must not undermine the municipality's most essential services. Once we have achieved a balanced economy, any surplus must go toward **core welfare**, starting with our children. But before we discuss how to spend, we must first secure stability.

We believe the people of Bornholm prefer **honesty over hollow promises**. We would rather make the difficult choices now – than continue toward an economic collapse later.

A Municipal Economy in Balance

Bornholm is heading toward an economic cliff

Bornholm's Regional Municipality is in the middle of a financial crisis. Expenses are running ahead of income, and the political decisions that could have stopped the decline never came.

The current municipal council has failed to make the necessary priorities.

If we continue down this road, Bornholm risks being placed under direct administration by the Ministry of the Interior. That would mean that crucial decisions about our welfare and our future would be made outside Bornholm.

We must not – and will not – let that happen.

A sustainable island economy with freedom and hope

Radikale Venstre wants to secure a municipality with long-term stability in our welfare system.

Our vision is an economy in balance — one that gives us the freedom and resources to invest in our children, our elderly, our climate, and our local businesses.

A municipality where Bornholmers once again trust that public money is spent wisely, and where we have the freedom to develop the island based on our own values and strengths.

Tough choices today can create balance tomorrow

In the short term, we must take responsibility and slow down spending.

That means making difficult choices and setting strict priorities to restore financial balance.

We will work toward a broad political agreement that unites a majority behind a long-term recovery plan, where no single issue or special interest can derail progress.

In the long term, we need to increase income by attracting 500 new resource-strong families to Bornholm.

That requires investments in housing, education, business development, and culture — and a strong shared story about Bornholm as a place to move to, engage in, and stay.

We want Bornholm to be Denmark's most attractive and newcomer-friendly island.

What does this mean for you – and for Bornholm?

In the beginning, every Bornholmer will feel the effect of tighter priorities.

Some things will have to change, and we won't be able to do everything as before.

But this is to prevent far harsher measures from being imposed from the outside.

Over time, Bornholm will gain a stronger financial foundation and deliver better-quality core welfare services.

It means taking responsibility for our own future instead of letting others decide it for us.

As a citizen, parent, employee, or entrepreneur, you'll have a municipality you can rely on — and an island where new families help create life, jobs, and community.

We are not taking the easy path — we are taking the necessary one, for Bornholm's sake.

Attracting New Residents to a More Vibrant Island – Bornholm should be a place you choose

Bornholm Needs New Energy and Stronger Communities

Bornholm's population is declining — and one of the main reasons is that we are not attracting enough resourceful families who can help drive the island's development.

The municipality needs more residents to secure a sustainable economy.

But newcomers often face barriers: a lack of accessible rental housing, uncertainty about job opportunities, and too few communities to become part of.

If we don't act strategically, we risk losing both workforce, engagement, and the opportunity to create a stronger, more vibrant Bornholm.

Bornholm Should Be the Natural Choice for New Families

Radikale Venstre wants to make Bornholm a truly attractive and welcoming island for newcomers.

Our goal is clear: to attract 500 resource-strong families.

We envision a Bornholm where new residents feel that the island *wants them here* — and where they quickly gain a sense of belonging.

An island with diverse communities, accessible homes, active associations, and flexible ways to live, work, and commute.

A Newcomer Strategy with People at Its Heart

First, we need to truly understand what potential newcomers are looking for.

We shouldn't guess — we should ask and listen.

Then we must shape our strategy around their real needs, even if some of those needs are not top priorities for the current population.

Second, we must ensure better access to temporary rental housing so newcomers can settle in safely before deciding whether to buy a home and make Bornholm their long-term choice. This will require close cooperation with both housing associations and private landlords.

Third, we must maintain and improve commuting opportunities to and from Copenhagen — through better ferry connections, reliable flights, and more flexible options for remote work.

Fourth, we will invest in the island's communities and volunteers.

It is local associations, passionate citizens, and volunteers who make newcomers feel welcome — and make them stay. The municipality should support this work much more actively than it does today.

Finally, we want to make sure that Bornholm remains a place where families have real freedom of choice — including the opportunity for homeschooling, for those who wish to take greater responsibility for their children's education.

This flexibility is part of what makes Bornholm an open and creative place to live.

What Does It Mean for You – and for Bornholm?

For Bornholmers, it means new neighbours, new pupils in the schools, new members in associations — and perhaps new colleagues at work.

For the island, it means more hands, greater diversity, and a stronger economy.

For newcomers, it means it will be easier to take the leap:

you can find housing, travel easily to and from the island, and feel from day one that you are genuinely welcome.

By opening the door to your community, your neighbourhood, or your association, you help shape the Bornholm we dream of — a place people don't just move to, but actively choose to call home.

An Efficient and Responsive Municipality – for the benefit of citizens, businesses, and employees

Too Much Red Tape – Too Little Focus on the Core Mission

Bornholm's Regional Municipality handles many important tasks every day – but too often, unnecessary bureaucracy, unclear procedures, and high sick leave pull time and resources away from what truly matters.

Employees work hard but feel that the system works against them.

Meanwhile, citizens and local businesses face long processing times and confusing administrative processes.

It costs time, money, and – most importantly – trust.

A Municipality That Works Smarter – Not Just Harder

Radikale Venstre wants a municipality where quality is high, job satisfaction is real, and contact with citizens is smooth and respectful.

We want an organisation where employees and leaders feel that their efforts make sense, and where resources are used wisely.

It's not about running faster – it's about setting better priorities, collaborating smarter, and listening more.

A Leaner Organisation with Low Sick Leave and Local Focus

We will reduce sick leave and improve the working environment across the municipality – because it is both a human and an economic necessity.

That requires a strong focus on well-being, good leadership, and a serious reduction of unnecessary bureaucracy.

We will support the municipality's leaders in managing public funds with care and common sense – always looking for ways to simplify processes, increase efficiency, or close down tasks that no longer add value.

The organisation must constantly adapt to Bornholm's changing needs and conditions – and we will actively learn from other municipalities that have managed to deliver high quality despite limited resources.

There are many good examples showing that clear priorities, strong leadership, and respect for employees lead to better results – even in remote areas.

At the same time, citizens and businesses must feel that the municipality takes them seriously.

Communication should be clear, welcoming, and transparent – and case handling should be quick, understandable, and predictable.

That builds trust and cooperation.

What Does It Mean for Me – and for Bornholm?

If you work in the municipality, you should feel that your workplace values your well-being and gives you the right tools to do your job well.

If you are a citizen or business owner, you should be able to rely on a municipality that is easy to reach, quick to respond, and clear about your rights and opportunities.

For Bornholm, this means we will get more out of the money we already spend – and ensure that public resources go to solutions, not systems.

An efficiently run municipality is not about saving for the sake of saving – it's an investment in quality, trust, and the future.

Climate and Environment – Bornholm as a pioneer in the green transition

Bornholm Risks Losing Its Green Lead

Bornholm has long been known as Denmark's *test island* and a green frontrunner.

But both the climate and nature are under pressure: sea levels are rising, biodiversity is declining, and both agriculture and fisheries are feeling the consequences.

At the same time, we face a historic opportunity to create new green jobs — but only if we act now.

If we stop pushing ahead, we risk losing not only our nature, but also our opportunities and momentum.

A Green Island of Action, Nature, and New Jobs

Radikale Venstre wants Bornholm to remain Denmark's leading island for green transformation.

We aim to combine climate responsibility with business development and quality of life.

Bornholm should be a place where energy is sustainable and locally produced, where nature is allowed to flourish, and where green companies grow and create jobs.

An island where climate action leads to visible improvements in everyday life.

Action That Strengthens the Climate, the Economy, and Nature

We will use Energiø Bornholm — the upcoming energy hub in the Baltic Sea — as a driving force for new industries and jobs within green technology, climate-friendly agriculture, and sustainable tourism.

At the same time, we will protect and expand our natural areas — for example by creating connected nature zones from Paradisbakkerne to Nexø and from Almindingen to Aakirkeby — and make nature more accessible to everyone.

A healthy and vibrant Baltic Sea is also a priority.

We will ensure that protecting the marine environment becomes a shared responsibility between citizens, businesses, and public authorities.

The municipality must lead by example through green procurement, waste reduction, and a targeted strategy for biodiversity.

And we will involve companies, local communities, and volunteers — because the green transition will only succeed if we all pull together.

What Does It Mean for Me – and for Bornholm?

You will live on an island where the electricity is greener, nature is closer, and jobs are more sustainable.

Perhaps you or your children will work in a new green company.

You won't have to change your whole life overnight — but you will notice that it becomes easier to live climate-friendly.

For Bornholm, it means new jobs, stronger communities, and a landscape we can be proud to pass on.

We are not doing it to look modern — we are doing it because the future demands it.

Healthier Bornholmers – prevention, community and freedom

Health Costs Both Quality of Life – and Money

Too many Bornholmers struggle with lifestyle diseases, stress, and loneliness. This affects not only individuals but also our shared economy and community. When prevention fails, illness increases – and the healthcare system comes under pressure. We spend huge amounts on treatment while neglecting to create the conditions for a healthy life.

A Bornholm with More Healthy Years and Fewer Preventable Illnesses

Radikale Venstre wants to promote a culture of health where making healthy choices is easy and natural. We will invest in initiatives that improve well-being and health in the long term – while also making sense in everyday life. Health should not be an individual struggle, but a shared opportunity.

Health Close to Everyday Life and Community

We will make it easier and safer to be active – through more bike paths, green walking routes, strong local associations, and better access to nature. We will give prevention the same priority as treatment – and ensure that health policy doesn't stop at the hospital bed. By cooperating with associations and civil society, we will strengthen communities that promote both physical and mental well-being – because health grows through relationships. We will also strengthen mental health, especially among children, young people, and the elderly, where stress and loneliness are far too common today. And we will make it easier to make healthy choices – in schools, canteens, shops, and workplaces.

What Does It Mean for Me – and for Bornholm?

You will find it easier to move, and more fun to do so with others. You will feel that well-being is taken seriously – before it turns into illness. For Bornholm, it means a population with more healthy years, fewer hospitalisations, and stronger communities. That's good for people – and good for the economy.

Safe and Green Mobility – Bornholm for pedestrians, cyclists and communities

Unsafe Traffic and an Uncertain Transport Future Create Insecurity

Getting around Bornholm should be safe and easy — but today, it often isn't.

Public transport is experienced as complicated and unreliable.

Residents who move near a bus route can't be sure the line will still exist a few years later.

In the towns, cars dominate the streets — even in pedestrian areas and on central squares, where children, seniors, and everyone else should be able to move freely and safely.

Pedestrians and cyclists often have poor conditions.

That makes it harder to choose green transport options — and it creates insecurity in everyday life.

An Island Where Everyone Can Move Safely and Easily – Regardless of Age or How They Travel

Radikale Venstre wants a Bornholm where it's easy to live sustainably — and where everyone, including children and the elderly, can travel safely.

We imagine an island where public transport is a reliable alternative to cars, and where walking and cycling are attractive, natural choices.

Our urban spaces should be calm and pleasant to spend time in — with fewer cars than today.

Safe and green transport is not just good for mobility — it's good for public health, the climate, and quality of life.

Stable Public Transport and People-Centered Streets

We will secure stable, uncomplicated public transport, so people can confidently live near a route and know it will still be there years from now.

That requires political responsibility and long-term planning.

At the same time, we will improve conditions for pedestrians and cyclists:

more sidewalks and bike paths, better lighting, safer crossings and roundabouts, and clear signage.

It must be easy and safe to choose the active way.

Speeds in towns should be lower, and we need more car-free zones.

We will invest in safe traffic infrastructure, clear road markings, and stronger enforcement of traffic laws.

It's about preventing accidents — and sending a clear message:

Bornholm should be safe for all road users.

What Does It Mean for Me – and for Bornholm?

You should be able to trust the bus.

You should be able to send your children to school on foot or by bike — without fear.

You should be able to walk through town without worrying about fast cars or traffic on the sidewalks.

For Bornholm, this means fewer accidents, better public health, and greener mobility.

And for our community, it means that transport becomes more inclusive — also for those who can't or don't want to drive.

When we make it easy to move safely and sustainably, we're not just helping the climate — we're making life better for everyone.

An Elder Policy Based on Respect and Care

Care Under Pressure

There is a shortage of hands in elder care — and those who remain are under heavy pressure. Too many skilled care workers have to take sick leave because they lack time, colleagues, and recognition.

At the same time, many elderly people feel unsafe and lonely — and experience that the system takes up more space than the human connection. If we don't act, we risk losing both our care workers and our dignity.

We are also facing a demographic reality: in the coming years, we will have more elderly citizens — and fewer people to care for them. That will require brave and responsible financial choices.

Elder Care with Warmth, Time, and Dignity

Radikale Venstre wants to create elder care that gives space for professionalism, calm, and genuine care.

A system where the elderly feel safe and seen — and where care workers can be proud of their work. This is not just about budgets or staffing numbers — it's about people.

Less System – More Meaning

We will prioritise practical experience and human qualities — not just formal education.

At the same time, we will cut unnecessary bureaucracy and documentation so staff can spend their time doing what they are passionate about: caring for people.

We will invest in better working conditions, lower sick leave, ongoing training, and real influence in daily decisions — because this creates both job satisfaction and quality.

And we will think creatively — for instance, by building bridges between generations through partnerships between schools, childcare, associations, and elder care.

Fairness and Priorities

We also believe it is fair to distinguish between elderly citizens with many resources and those who are more vulnerable.

As welfare budgets tighten, it is reasonable to discuss whether resource-strong seniors could contribute more to certain practical services — such as cleaning — so that public funds can focus on those most in need.

What Does It Mean for Me – and for Bornholm?

As an elderly person, you will feel more safety and continuity in your daily life.

You will know who comes to your home — and that they have time for you.

As a relative, you will have peace of mind, because you can trust the quality of care.

As an employee, you will have space for professionalism and breathing room in your workday.

For Bornholm, this means an elder care system we can truly be proud of — built on respect, closeness, and trust.

And because we dare to speak honestly about what it takes, we can ensure that those who need care most — always get it.

Scan here for the website in Danish



Hjemmesiden