



## 2020 Vision

"The Good Society and the General Election: Our society is facing some fundamental challenges – rising levels of poverty and inequality, an increasing cost of living, the prospect of climate crisis.

This isn't new, but whoever forms the next government will have a tough job and key decisions ahead.

These will ultimately shape the type of society that we become.

The '2020 Vision' is drawn from a common desire to see a society that works for all – in which each of us are valued and which respects the Earth.

In short - a society for the common good.

Read the Churches Together in England's full document  
['The Good Society and the General Election: 2020 Vision' here ...](#)

Thinking about your vote

## in light of your Christian faith ...

One of the things that IBEX exists for is to encourage people to take an interest in Public Affairs, Social Responsibility, Church and Society matters or whatever else you might want to call it. And while thinking about it, you should of course be thinking about the issues with a Christian hat on (presuming you are a Christian, because I am well aware that not all our readers will be, which is most welcome, but they will know what I mean!)

When I was appointed to SHIM, as it was then, over 20 years ago, my title was Faith and Work Development Officer. The thrust of that was precisely what this is about - to apply the Christian Faith to all aspects of everyday life (Not just work).

In our last Newsletter, we included a number of things about the democratic process, from the Magna Carta onwards. It is now three weeks to the election, and we are seeking to put regular posts on our [Facebook page](#) to encourage people to think about this all. There is a Guardian editorial in response to some comments from [David Cameron about Christianity](#). Or there is an article from the [Huffington Post arguing against the main thrusts of Some of UKIP's main issues](#).

The point of this is **certainly not** to tell you how to vote. It is, as the Church of England Bishops sought to do in their pastoral letter, to encourage people to vote, and to encourage them to think about the issues in the light of their Christian Faith.



So please have a look, ["Like" the IBEX Facebook page](#), forward it to your friends and encourage them to like it as well, think about the issues, agree or disagree - disagree strongly if you want to, and tell the world you do with a comment. And also feel free to suggest other **quality** material we could usefully put out there.

As Bob Hoskins used to say on the old BT adverts, *it's good to talk*.

*David Wrighton*

## Quote of the day ...



“Freedom prospers when  
religion is vibrant and the  
rule of law  
under God is acknowledged.”

– Ronald Reagan

## Who is IBEX?

IBEX – the Church working in the Economy Central South Coast

IBEX is a Christian organisation relating faith to economic life, in Hampshire and Dorset, mainly Bournemouth and Poole.

We are funded by the URC Wessex Synod, Southampton Methodist District and Baptist Home Mission.

Our main areas of activity:

- Support for local churches serving their communities
- Work with Partner Organisations on Community Projects e.g. local authorities, statutory and voluntary organisations
- Support and development of Chaplaincy

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