It’s time to take back our public services and make them work for everyone. After decades of failed privatisation, our party is preparing to build incredible publicly owned public services.

We believe that 21st-century public ownership needs to put the public into public ownership – both to make sure it’s wildly successful and to make it hard for any future government to dismantle. This means making public services democratic and accountable to the people who use them, as well as wider society.

We note and approve of the following conclusions and recommendations of the ‘When We Own It’ report, submitted by We Own It to Labour’s National Policy Forum in response to their consultation on democratic public ownership.

* All publicly owned organisations should have a public mission and a range of 21st-century duties to deliver for the **public interest in terms of environment, society and the economy.**
  + A duty to **decarbonise** our economy
  + A duty to **ensure access for all** to public services, enabling equality and ease of use for everyone
  + A duty to **work closely with** **communities** to encourage and enable local projects and initiatives that involve public services and spaces
  + A duty to steward and **protect public assets and land**
  + A duty to **maximise public scrutiny** by being entirely transparent and encouraging public discussion and participation
* **Citizens, civil society and workers should be at the heart of the governance structures** in new publicly owned organisations.
* **A** **new, independent, democratically accountable organisation should be created with statutory powers** to hold publicly owned companies to account and to stand in the way of future privatisation attempts. We suggest the name ‘Participate’.
* **Public services should foster a much more participatory culture** where we all feel able to be involved in public services in whatever way, time and place suit us best – and we know that our perspective can really be heard.
* New **checks, balances and accountability mechanisms** should be created and enforced to give the public more power – like transparency of data, and public votes before any outsourcing or privatisation.
* **Public ownership and participation should be embedded at the local level** so that it’s part of people’s lives and there are powers, funding and accountability close to home.
* **Community projects, spaces and priorities** should be connected to and in cooperation with public services.