

Social Policies (Contd.)

We should work to maintain our high quality of life in Jersey. In recent years the division between the haves and the have not's has increased. GST on food and basic requirements imposes costs on everybody including those least able to pay. I favour a review of GST and a differential tax rate on non essentials to offset the cost of exemptions

We must maintain Jersey's independent character and not let the economic pressures undermine it. Our community services and voluntary sector should be supported to the maximum extent our resources allow. They provide services more cost effectively than government and adapt more rapidly.

I will seek a review of personal tax to remove the unintended consequences of our two-tier personal tax system. There needs to be greater emphasis in our education system on vocational skills to meet local employment needs and develop the creative and IT sectors. I will look at alternatives to the two site option proposed for the general hospital including jointly-run specialist services with Guernsey, France and the UK.

I support the States acquiring brown field sites for first-time buyer housing developments and homes for the over 55's in the built up areas of each parish which will release family homes for younger families. I will work to find a legal basis for equity share homes.

Environmental Policies:

- Sustainable population – limiting growth
- Protecting our coast and countryside
- Urban regeneration
- St Helier Waterfront
- improved traffic management
- Increased recycling of waste
- improved public transport, mini bus routes serving local communities
- renewable energy

Our urban centres have to be transformed into places where people want to live. This requires a major initiative to improve St Helier, traffic management, open space provision, improvement areas, redevelopment of offices to homes, major infrastructure e.g. a new arts centre and Fort Regent.

The St Helier Waterfront master-plan has to be reviewed and public and community uses given priority. The role of the States of Jersey Development Company should be reviewed.

Despite the recession, the Island is under pressure from development of our coast and countryside. This requires continued vigilance; we have seen too many out of scale developments which have changed our coasts for ever. We must work to keep our Coastal National Park largely unspoilt. The improvements to our planning system, including a new appeals system, have to be implemented swiftly and efficiently.

Priorities for Government

- improvements to our ministerial system
- joined up government
- rebalancing the power between Ministers, elected members and the community
- reform and restructuring of the public sector
- protecting front line services
- reducing layers of administration

The growth in public spending is no longer sustainable. Public sector overheads should be reduced by scaling down the costly corporate functions and reducing layers of management which add limited value to front line services. A fresh approach is urgently required.

We need to repeal the legal changes which now impose collective responsibility on our Ministers. We must have a more inclusive government, greater openness and transparency, and more checks and balances. With new political leadership we can reduce the division between the executive and non-executive States members, and restore public confidence in our government.

Contact Details

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*“Has the experience
to make a difference”*

About me

- I was born in London and have lived in Jersey for 35 years
- I am 68, married , have a son who is a secondary school teacher, and a daughter who is a qualified solicitor, two adult step-daughters and three grandsons
- I am a qualified (CPFA) accountant, have an Open University Degree in scientific disciplines, a Diploma in Financial Services Compliance, and Certificate in Management Studies
- I enjoy any kind of music and creative arts.

My qualifications for election as Senator

I have lived in Jersey for 35 years. I have had successful careers as a senior manager in both the public and private sectors. Before being elected as a Deputy in 2011, I was practice director of a local law firm for five years, spent some time as a successful self-employed consultant employed on assignments in Guernsey and Alderney and two years as an accountant in the finance industry. The majority of my working life has been delivering efficient public services and in public sector policy in Jersey and the UK.

I was previously a States civil servant for 25 years, in the States Treasury, as a Health Service senior manager, and for 13 years as Chief Officer of the Planning and Environment Department until 2004. I am a team person and have served with many local voluntary groups. Previously Chairman and Treasurer of the Jersey Arts Centre, committee member Shelter Trust, Les Amis, Jersey Eradication of Poverty group and Regent Tigers Swimming Club

Why I am standing for election as Senator

Change is urgently required We need to elect Senators with the experience to deal with the structural deficit in our public finances, the ever growing needs of our health service and the urgently required public sector reform. We need Senators with the experience, ability and the personal qualities to face these problems openly and to reconnect with the public to restore their lost trust and confidence. We need to deliver joined up government.

If elected as Senator I will take up this challenge. I will work to ensure Jersey is protected and nurtured for future generations, that we continue to prosper economically and our special community is sustained.

My Record as a States Deputy

My States roles from 2011 have been

- Chairman of the Environment Scrutiny Panel
- Machinery of Government Sub – Committee
- Chairman’s Committee
- Privileges and Procedures Committee
- Access to Justice Group.

Three years ago I was elected in St Brelade District No 1, having made a commitment to reform our Planning system following the Portelet development. I believe that I have fulfilled my promises and demonstrated my commitment.

I have taken up individual grievances in housing, employment, licencing, population control and many planning cases, representing people before Ministers, the States Complaints Board and assisted their planning cases before the panel and Royal Court

I have held quarterly scrutiny hearings about the bus contract, planning reforms, energy efficiency scheme, asbestos removal and produced reports on:

- Incinerator Ash Disposal
- Green St Police Station
- Radon Gas
- Energy Policy
- Cycle Helmets
- Liquid waste strategy

I have regularly tabled questions, lodged amendments and private members propositions. Several of my private members propositions gained States approval:

- a fairer planning appeals system
- greater safeguards for planning decisions
- improved Island plan policies
- protection for St Brelades Bay
- ensured the protection of the Coastal National Park
- greater tax relief for charitable donations
- retention of survivor’s pensions for 55 year olds
- halted the sale of historic Piquet House

Economic Policies

- diversification of our economy
- encourage innovation
- encouragement of Hi – Tech and creative sectors
- development of cultural, heritage and environmental tourism
- reducing unnecessary regulation
- less reliance on imported labour
- improving our local skill base
- encourage utility scale renewable energy
- sustainable agriculture
- support our finance industry

All of us have experienced the effect of the recession. I will seek to enhance the advance to work scheme and other initiatives to ameliorate the loss of local jobs. We must support new enterprises in local job creation and remove unnecessary bureaucracy

We must continue to support our finance industry which has almost had to reinvent itself to comply with the new international policy landscape, introduce rigorous financial regulation and adapt to changed public attitudes. However we have to recognise that our Finance sector is unlikely to replicate its past economic growth. I will work to help this industry diversify and refocus its business.

I will press for a review of the zero ten corporate tax structures for entities trading locally, the extent to which it disadvantages locally owned businesses and identify alternatives to it. We should pursue opportunities for renewable energy which offers the potential for the development of new skills and jobs.

Social Policies:

- differential rates of GST to enable exemptions for food and essential services
- access to justice reforms
- independent personal taxation
- review of our two tier personal tax system
- emphasis on vocational skills in education
- States ombudsman to investigate injustice
- Improving access to primary health care
- review the two site option proposed for the hospital