

# Press Release

For immediate release: 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018

## **STATES of ALDERNEY - Third United Kingdom Overseas Territories (UKOT) and Crown Dependencies (CD) Environment Ministerial Council Meeting, Isle of Man, February 2018**

The third Environment Ministerial Council Meeting was held in the Isle of Man, Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February. The previous 2017 meeting had been held in Alderney.

Alderney was represented by the Chairman of Policy and Finance, James Dent, and Strategic Adviser, Paul Veron. Paul Veron was also supporting the States of Guernsey who were without political representation.

As part of a wide-ranging agenda, the leaders discussed: (i) the challenges they face as a consequence of the UK's departure from the European Union; (ii) the synergies and links between their economies and their environments; (iii) the need for strong economies in order to be able to undertake conservation work; and (iv) how they might help each other in regard to both environmental protection and economic development.

In their concluding statement the participants noted: (i) that the smaller UKOTs and CDs require clear lines of access to UK Government institutions and additional attention, as they have few institutional resources of their own; and (ii) the difficulties that the smaller UKOTs and CDs had with developing and enforcing appropriate environmental policies - they typically have few civil service resources of their own - they also have little access to external resources. It was suggested that a common pool of resources might be made available.

On the second day, UK Undersecretary of State for the Environment, Therese Coffey, joined the meeting by Skype. She made a presentation and confirmed the UK Government's support for the meeting's objectives.

### **List of Ministers and other lead representatives participating:**

Hon. Geoffrey Boot MHK, Isle of Man  
Hon. Prof John Cortés, Gibraltar  
Mr James Dent, States of Alderney  
Mr Paul Veron, Guernsey  
Deputy Steven Luce, Jersey  
Dr Richard Axton, Sark  
Hon. Walton Brown, JP, MP, Bermuda



*Meeting Delegates*

MLA Teslyn Barkman, Falkland Islands  
Hon. David Osborne, Montserrat  
Councillor Michelle Christian, Pitcairn  
Councillor Russell Yon, St Helena  
Hon. Ralph Higgs, Turks & Caicos Islands  
Councillor James Glass, Tristan da Cunha

Ends

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