



# STATES OF ALDERNEY

## Consultation on Alderney's Vision

The States of Alderney is consulting the public and stakeholders about its vision for Alderney. This is the first step in a process to focus on key priorities for the island and ensure that we deliver positive change for the community.

Our vision reflects what we have done in our Land Use Plan. We had excellent engagement with the community about this. So we've taken that as our starting point and added in that all important issue about connectivity.

### **A vision for Alderney**

*To create a welcoming, resilient and sustainable island which has excellent connectivity with a buoyant economy and a happy, healthy community; and a community which values and protects the island's unique cultural and natural environment.*

### **About our Vision**

Is a vision just warm words? Motherhood and Apple Pie? We think it's more than that. Through our vision we begin to imagine how the future should be and that, in turn, helps us understand and plan what we need to do to get there.

By agreeing a vision for Alderney we can galvanise the work of government and the efforts of the whole community. We should be aspirational, aiming for things that may seem out of reach. We may not achieve everything we wish for but a vision will help us make progress and keep us on the right course. It will help us question our progress and our priorities.

There are elements in our vision which we feel are already strengths. Our community is welcoming – but there's more we could do. As an island set at some distance from our neighbours we have had to be resilient. Can we build on that strength? We have done good things to recognise the importance of our natural land and marine environments but there are many challenges to address around the way we use energy and deal with waste. We have economic strengths but our economy also has some fragility.

Transport connectivity is a big challenge for Alderney. We believe that an aspiration for excellent connectivity should be our ambition even though it is difficult to deliver and a long way from the current reality. It's vital for our future and we will need to use all of our influence and creativity to make progress.

When we talk about vision, it's important not to think just about Alderney alone but also to think about our place in the Bailiwick of Guernsey. We think our Bailiwick relationship can continue to bring strength and value to Alderney just as Alderney can continue to contribute to the Bailiwick. We don't see this as a static thing – our relationship will change and we should actively review and embed those changes. Essentially we are separate jurisdictions but we operate within a fiscal union which brings resilience and sustainability.

We do not wish to become more reliant on Guernsey than we need to be. Indeed, within our vision we would aspire to do more for ourselves. We do not seek separation from Guernsey

but we do seek to be as self-sustaining as possible and to develop our Island's individuality and ability to act for itself.

We might express this as "difference where appropriate and desirable." We want to continue with our review of the financial relationship with Guernsey, seeking greater control over things which would work better if tailored to Alderney's circumstances and collaborating effectively where things work best when done together with Guernsey. We want to make the best of the agility we can demonstrate as a small island jurisdiction in the way we legislate and respond to opportunities and innovation. Above all, we want to reverse the decline in population, economy and connectivity which has been the hallmark of the last decade.

### **Plans and Priorities**

Visions come to nothing unless they are backed by action. We know that, as a government, we need to be better at focussing our efforts, prioritising our resources and delivering outcomes. We'll review our plans to try and ensure that they match our vision and can deliver our aspirations. And we'll consult you on those issues too.

But first, we need to hear from the public and stakeholders in our community. Is this the right vision? Does it chime with what you think is important for Alderney? Can we improve on it? What matters for you?

We know there'll be lots of specific things that people want to see as priorities, and we'll listen to and welcome those ideas too. But the vision is important. Things will flow from it. So please help us get it right.

We would like to hear from stakeholders and residents of Alderney about the vision. Our consultation is open until the 25<sup>th</sup> July and you can respond by writing to or emailing:

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