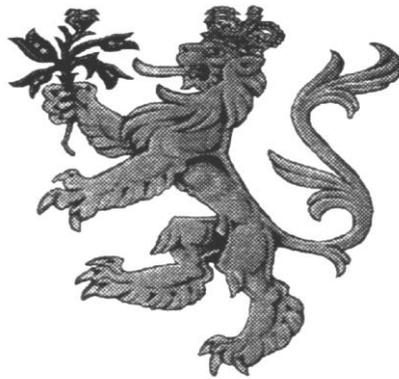


STATES OF ALDERNEY



BILLET D'ETAT

WEDNESDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 2019

Price: £2.30

STATES OF ALDERNEY

BILLET D'ETAT

FOR WEDNESDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 2019

Members of the States:

I have the honour to inform you that the Meeting of the States will be held at 5:30 pm on Wednesday 11th September 2019. This will be preceded by the People's Meeting, which will be held on Wednesday 4th September 2019 at 7:00 pm in the Island Hall.

William Tate
President

Item I **Chief Pleas**

Persons whose names are included on the Register of Voters and who have given due notice will address the States on matters of public interest.

Item II **Implications of a 'No Deal' BREXIT**

The following letter was received from Mr Dent, Chairman of the Policy and Finance Committee:-

“Background

The States of Alderney notes the UK's new Prime Minister's position on Brexit and his determination, should a deal not be possible, to go-ahead with a no-deal Brexit. To date, the States of Alderney has been pleased that the States of Guernsey has been able to represent the States of Alderney on common Brexit interests.

The States of Alderney should, however, inform the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department for Exiting the European Union, Mr James Duddridge MP, that there are a number of issues on which the States of Alderney and the States of Guernsey have different concerns and interests. On matters of difference, the States of Alderney makes its own representations as is its right as a Crown Dependency.

Concerns

The States of Alderney wishes to inform the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State of the States of Alderney's specific concerns in relation to a 'No Deal' Brexit. These are:

- *The risk that we will lose our traditional access to the small ports along the Cotentin peninsula*

- *The risk that fishing vessels in Alderney will lose their current rights to land fish at ports along the Cotentin peninsula*
- *The potential difficulties of local trading with France and the impact of a hard border between Alderney and its nearest neighbour*
- *The rights of EU citizens currently working and residing in Alderney*
- *The ability for Alderney to continue to source temporary labour from the EU*
- *The unimpeded supply of essential freight from Poole by sea and from Southampton by air.*

The States of Alderney therefore seeks reassurance that the potential impact on and risks for this small and isolated island are understood by the UK Government and to convey to the UK Government that our continuing sustainability as an economy and community are at risk from a 'No Deal' Brexit.

I would be grateful if this matter is placed before the next meeting of the States of Alderney with an appropriate proposition.

Mr James Dent, Chairman"

Committee Meeting Attendees:-

Mr D Earl, Deputy Chair
Ms A Burgess
Mr M Dean
Mr K Gentle
Mr C Harris
Mr L Jean
Mr G McKinley OBE
Mr S Roberts
Mr A Snowdon

The States of Alderney requests the President to convey the concerns of the States of Alderney to the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State and to seek a meeting with him to ensure these concerns are fully understood and taken into account by the UK Government.

Item III Change to the Rules of Procedure for States Committees

The following letter was received from Mr Dent, Chairman of the Policy and Finance Committee:-

"The Policy and Finance Committee, at its meeting on June 20th 2019, resolved to recommend to the States of Alderney to change the current Rules of Procedure for States Committees to make available confidential annexures to all States Members with some defined exceptions to be agreed.

Currently, Rule 11 reads that "Minutes shall be approved by the Committee at its next full meeting, and excepting confidential annexures, shall be circulated to all States Members. Confidential annexures should only contain confidential material relating to a person or a company's business, personal affairs and any matters covered by Data Protection legislation. Sensitive commercial information should also appear in the confidential annexures."

The current rule does not therefore provide for all States Members to see confidential annexures and as a consequence they are only available to the Committee Members. This situation means that the scrutiny of decision-making is weakened. All States Members are bound by the oath they take in entering office and by the Code of

Conduct. It is therefore arguable that all decisions taken, whether confidential or not, should be visible to all States Members.

There are currently no detailed protocols around the availability of information and any exceptional circumstances where information may justifiably need to be restricted. Such cases of restricted information do exist (for example, access to restricted information about security threats). It is therefore proposed that the Policy and Finance Committee approves and maintains a protocol which sets out the rules for access to information for States Members, and the rules which govern confidentiality.

However, in order to clarify this position the current Rules of Procedure for States Committees need to be amended to change the default position from restriction of confidential items to Committee Members alone, to enable all States Members access to such information.

I would be grateful if this matter is placed before the next meeting of the States of Alderney with an appropriate proposition.

James Dent, Chairman”

Committee Meeting Attendees:-

Mr J Dent, Chairman
Mr D Earl, Deputy Chair
Ms A Burgess
Mr M Dean
Mr K Gentle
Mr C Harris
Mr L Jean
Mr G McKinley OBE
Mr S Roberts
Mr A Snowdon

The States of Alderney is asked to approve that Rule 11 in the Rules of Procedure for States Committees be replaced with the following:

11. Minutes shall be approved by the Committee at its next full meeting and shall be circulated to all States Members. Minutes should only be set out in confidential annexures where they accord with the criteria set out in the Protocol for access to information and confidentiality which have been determined by the Policy and Finance Committee.

Item IV Questions and Reports

Issued: 30th August 2019