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Dear XXX

### **Draft Alderney Wildlife Law**

As part of the States of Alderney's commitment to the environment, draft wildlife legislation has been developed which provides much needed protection to Alderney's unique and valuable wildlife. The draft wildlife legislation is designed to cover the terrestrial environment extending to the intertidal zone but not the marine environment.

Alderney hosts a wide range of terrestrial and inter-tidal habitats and species. These environments are of intrinsic value and should be protected and where possible enhanced.

The proposed legislation is in three parts.

- Part one introduces a general duty on all public bodies and office holders to further the conservation of biodiversity.
- Part two provides protection for specific habitats and supports the protection already in place via the Building Development Control Law, and can utilise the existing list of habitats and definitions. It is intended that the Wildlife legislation would allow the States to, in time, designate existing States owned land as Areas of Enhanced Protection such as Longis Nature Reserve and Ramsar site. These areas already have agreed management plans. There is no intention to designate any privately owned land as Areas of Enhanced Protection (AEP). However, in due course, if land owners wished to apply for this designation to their land, this could be a matter for discussion and agreement with the States. This is especially important in areas such as the Longis Nature Reserve where some of the land is privately owned and the owners have expressed a willingness to designate alongside the States AEP.

- Part three provides protection for specific bird, animal and plant species. Species lists are in the process of being drafted but will likely include similar species to the UK Wildlife Act taking into account any species of special concern within the Alderney context.

It is proposed that the legislation will fall under the responsibilities of the General Services Committee (GSC) mandate. However, it is suggested that the legislation recognises the creation of a body of volunteers drawn from professional conservation bodies and wildlife science institutions, who would act to advise GSC with their responsibilities under the Law. This group is referred to in the draft guidance as the Scientific Advisory Group.

It is proposed that the draft legislation will replace the Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance 2005.

The States is grateful to the Alderney Wildlife Trust, who engaged the services of a UK law firm, Hogan Lovells at no cost to the States, to support in the development of guidance for a Wildlife Law.

This letter forms part of the consultation process before the details in this legislation are developed further and we would value your input at this stage.

If you have any concerns or wish to express any views about the proposed draft wildlife legislation, a copy of which is available on request, please feel free to contact me on [Catherine.veron@gov.gg](mailto:Catherine.veron@gov.gg)

Yours sincerely

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