

# States of Alderney

## Press Release

For immediate release: 19<sup>th</sup> August 2013

### States of Alderney POLICY COMMITTEE

#### Alderney Shopping Basket Survey - July 2013

Earlier this year the States of Alderney Policy Committee<sup>1</sup> agreed to undertake a survey of prices in Alderney and where possible compare those prices, like-for-like, with Guernsey. In this first 'Price Comparison' Survey, the prices of a basket of 225 items were collected in Alderney on behalf of the States of Alderney by Island Analysis<sup>2</sup> and compared with the prices of the same items in Guernsey. Of the 225 items, 130 were directly comparable.

2. Overall, using the same categories and weightings as can be found in the Guernsey RPI basket of goods, the Alderney sample 'basket' was 12% more expensive than the corresponding Guernsey basket. Some categories such as housing, clothing and footwear, fares and other travel, and leisure services do not yet have comparable items.

'Basket' category	Alderney v Guernsey
Food	+15%
Alcohol	-4%
Tobacco	+1%
Fuel, light, power	+48%
Household goods	+15%
Household Services	-2%
Personal goods	+2%
Motoring (fuel costs)	+25%
Leisure goods	+3%
Eating out	-13%

3. The overall number of items collected in Guernsey is considerably larger (x10) than the sample in this research. Many goods and services are simply not available in Alderney as compared with Guernsey. However, this piece of research covers a basket of 'staple' items and reflects the price difference between the islands. It should also be noted that the overall basket of Guernsey goods and services that make up the RPI as well as the current weightings are under review following a year-long Household Expenditure Survey.

4. It is important not to assume that it costs 12% more to live in Alderney than in Guernsey based on the results above. The percentage may be higher or lower if all goods and services could be compared and this could be tempered by higher internet sales per capita in Alderney than in Guernsey which could bring down the percentage difference.

## **Ends**

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