



STATES OF JERSEY ORDER PAPER

THURSDAY 25th JANUARY 2024
at 9.30 a.m.

F. APPOINTMENT OF MINISTERS, COMMITTEES AND PANELS

Selection of Chief Minister designate.
(*attached*)

MRS. L.-M. HART
Greffier of the States

22nd January 2024



ELECTION OF CHIEF MINISTER DESIGNATE

In accordance with the Standing Orders of the States of Jersey 3 nominations for the post of Chief Minister were received by the Greffier of the States. They are, in the order in which they were received –

1) Deputy Samuel Yves Mézec of St. Helier South

Deputy Geoffrey Peter Southern of St. Helier Central
Deputy Montfort Tadier of St. Brelade
Deputy Robert James Ward of St. Helier Central
Deputy Carina Soares Alves of St. Helier Central
Deputy Thomas Antony Coles of St. Helier South
Deputy Beatriz Borges de Sousa Vaz Moreno Porée of St. Helier South
Deputy Catherine Dolores Curtis of St. Helier Central
Deputy Lyndsay Victoria Feltham of St. Helier Central
Deputy Raluca Stefana Kovacs of St. Saviour

2) Deputy Lyndon John Farnham of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter

Connétable Alan Simon Crowcroft of St. Helier
Connétable Philip Bond Le Sueur of Trinity
Connétable Richard Vibert of St. Peter
Connétable Marcus O'Donnel Troy of St. Clement
Connétable Richard Anthony Kingston Honeycombe of St. Ouen
Connétable Kevin Charles Lewis of St. Saviour

3) Deputy Ian Joseph Gorst of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter

Connétable Deirdre Wendy Mezbourian of St. Lawrence
Connétable Robert David Johnson of St. Mary
Deputy Stephen George Luce of Grouville and St. Martin
Deputy Louise Mary Catherine Doublet of St. Saviour
Deputy Kirsten Francis Morel of St. John, St. Lawrence and Trinity
Deputy Stephen Morrison Ahier of St. Helier North
Deputy Inna Gardiner of St. Helier North
Deputy Kristina Louise Moore of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter
Deputy David James Warr of St. Helier South
Deputy Helen Mary Miles of St. Brelade
Deputy Margaret Elaine Millar of St. John, St. Lawrence and Trinity
Deputy Malcolm Ross Ferey of St. Saviour
Deputy Lucy Kate Frances Stephenson of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter
Deputy Max Brennan Andrews of St. Helier North

Each candidate has submitted a statement as required by Standing Orders, setting out their vision for a strategic policy and the manner in which they would propose to discharge their responsibilities as Chief Minister. The statements are attached at the Appendix.

Note

Members are reminded that, in accordance with Standing Orders, the Greffier of the States will read out the nominations and the Presiding Officer will then draw lots to determine the order in which the candidates will address the Assembly. Each candidate will address the Assembly for up to 10 minutes followed by up to one hour of questions from Members. When one candidate is being questioned the other candidates must withdraw from the Chamber to a place where they cannot hear the proceedings.



When the speeches and questions are concluded, a recorded vote will be taken. Members must write their own name and indicate their preferred candidate on pre-printed ballot papers which are read out.

The candidate who receives more than half of the votes cast will be selected as Chief Minister designate. If no candidate is selected by a recorded vote with more than half the votes, the candidate with the lowest number of votes shall withdraw from the contest and a further recorded vote shall be taken. Where there are 2 candidates remaining, the electronic voting system shall be used to take the recorded vote.

If, there are 2 candidates who receive the same number of votes as each other, but fewer votes than all the other candidates, there shall be a recorded vote to select which of them shall remain in the contest and the candidate who receives the fewest votes shall withdraw from it.

Deputy Sam Mézec - Vision Statement

'An Island Built on Social and Economic Justice'

Following 18 months of dysfunctionality and inaction, the States Assembly now has an opportunity to reset and deliver the kind of government the people of Jersey deserve.

For the remainder of this term of office, we need to establish a government that will make up for lost time and get our Island back on track, turning us away from the terminal decline that successive governments have taken us towards the brink of.

My vision for Jersey can be found in the Statement of Values in Reform Jersey's party constitution -

"We believe that it is the duty of the state, in partnership with its citizens, to help create a society that works for all, including the poorest and most disadvantaged. We believe in speaking up for the vulnerable, encouraging those with aspiration, and ensuring all can live in a society built on social and economic justice. We wish the Island to prosper in a manner that will improve the wellbeing of all current and future citizens."

These are values that many will share. But what matters is the plan for implementing the vision to make it a reality.

A new Council of Ministers is required to present a new Common Strategic Policy to the Assembly. We do not need to reinvent the wheel and can base a new CSP on the work already done. However, I will propose some key alterations.

Firstly, the new government must get to grips with the housing crisis.

On day one of a new government, I will issue a declaration that Jersey has a housing crisis, instruct that an emergency taskforce is set up immediately and a drastically fast-tracked timeline is issued for the presentation of the new Residential Tenancy Law.

Secondly, Jersey's transition to a carbon emissions-free Island must be done in line with the principle of a 'just transition'.

Playing our part in combatting climate change is not just morally the right thing to do but presents Jersey with a huge opportunity to improve our quality of life and exploit new economic opportunities. We must focus on commonsense proposals which proactively seek to make working people's lives better, rather than the badly targeted use of taxpayer's money to subsidise the affluent.

Thirdly, we must restore faith and confidence in government, which can only be achieved by adopting a very different approach to the previous government.

The new Cabinet Office has not been constructed properly and needs to be fixed. The expansion of some offices in government to increase their influence at the expense of our democratic procedures must be reversed.

The next government will be a coalition and must be inclusive of the talents and expertise of members from across the Chamber. My vision for how politics can be conducted is one where our differences can be managed respectfully. The divisions and incivility we have seen must come to an end. As the leaders of the Island, we must lead by example.

How I will discharge my duties as Chief Minister

As the leader of a political party, a senior Scrutiny chair and former government minister, I have shown that I am capable of bringing people together to work as a team in pursuit of shared objectives.

In recognising that we are a divided Assembly having just been through a fractious debate, I will aim to bring members together in a way that is genuinely inclusive and collaborative. I will demonstrate this with my actions, not just my words.

As Chief Minister, I will respect the fact that the States Assembly is the sovereign decision-making body of Jersey, not the Council of Ministers. All major announcements will be made on the floor of the States Chamber, not elsewhere. The government will not unilaterally override decisions of the Assembly. We will also not unduly disregard recommendations made by Scrutiny Panels.

I will also respect that the majority of States Members are independents, with their own manifestos and mandates. As the leader of a coalition government, I will adopt a different approach to collective responsibility, which allows Ministers to stay true to own principles, and empowers the Assembly to take more of a lead on establishing government policy. This will mean differences can be managed without resentment or unpleasantness. The trade off will mean that the government will not always be united on every issue, but the benefits of a more civil and respectful kind of politics will outweigh this.

Lastly, we must reconnect the government with the public. Rather than bringing us closer to Islanders, the government's Communications Unit has achieved the opposite. Under my leadership, Ministers will be responsible for their own communications functions. Ministers will be encouraged to spend time in their departments to get to know their frontline staff and the issues faced on the ground, rather than spend the majority of their time in Broad Street.

I have shown that I am an effective leader who brings people together. I have demonstrated my competency when it comes to forming strategies and policies. As Chief Minister, I will show that a better kind of politics is possible, which can genuinely meet the needs of Islanders.

**Candidate for the Position of Chief Minister
Statement
Deputy Lyndon John Farnham**

1. VISION FOR A STRATEGIC POLICY

My vision for Jersey is for an island that provides a high quality and a more affordable way of life for all residents.

To create a thriving and sustainable community that embraces its unique natural beauty, rich heritage, and vibrant culture, while also being a sought-after destination for visitors from around the world.

In this vision, Jersey will be a place where innovation and entrepreneurship flourish, creating opportunities for economic growth and prosperity.

We have lost our way. Government is too cumbersome, it tries to do too much and achieves little. We must slim down. We must identify our major problems and solve them one by one.

Healthcare and Education.

I will prioritise healthcare and education which must be of the highest standard, providing our residents with access to the best possible facilities and services.

Affordable Housing

I will prioritise affordable housing. Affordable housing is a critical component of any thriving community. It is the foundation for ensuring that individuals and families of all income levels have access to safe, decent, and affordable homes. Affordable housing plays a vital role in promoting social equity, economic stability, and overall well-being. We must solve this.

Economy

The development of sustainable industries that respect and protect our environment, ensuring that future generations can continue to enjoy the island's natural beauty.

Community

We will foster a strong sense of community, promoting safety, inclusivity and diversity, and supporting the well-being of all individuals..

Heritage

Preserving and celebrating our unique heritage will be a key part of our vision.

We will protect and maintain our historical sites, while also embracing modern developments that enhance our cultural offerings.

Jersey will be a place where tradition and innovation coexist harmoniously.

Our island will be known for its commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship.

Renewable energy

We will strive to be a leader in renewable energy, waste management, and conservation efforts. Through sustainable practices and responsible tourism, we must preserve our natural resources for generations to come.

External Relations and International Development

How the outside world perceives us is incredibly important. Maintaining strong external relations is vital for Jersey's development and prosperity.

The benefits span across various aspects of the island's economy, culture, tourism, and international cooperation.

By actively engaging with the global community, Jersey can unlock new opportunities, showcase its unique identity, contribute to global issues, and enhance its reputation on the international stage.

One of the key requirements of the Chief Minister is to represent Jersey on the international stage, an area in which I have extensive experience.

Working together

The States Assembly consists of individuals from various backgrounds representing different parishes and constituencies, parties and other groups.

When legislators work together constructively they bring a wide range of expertise to the policy development process. Future collaboration will ensure that policy discussions are inclusive and consider multiple view points leading to more well rounded and comprehensive policies that will better address the needs of Islanders.

My commitment is to ensure that as an Assembly and as a Government we work together with respect and courtesy.

To repeat a phrase said a number of times in past assemblies, it is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness. We need to focus on positive relations and outcomes for the betterment of our Island. As a Jerseyman and a longstanding member of this Assembly that is an inherent part of my DNA

2. THE MANNER IN WHICH I WOULD PROPOSE TO DISCHARGE MY RESPONSIBILITIES AS CHIEF MINISTER

It is clear that the Assembly was dissatisfied with how the Government engaged and communicated with Scrutiny, the Assembly and members in general.

No-one who knows me can ever accuse me of discourtesy or lack of professionalism. My style is based around working together, inclusion and communication.

That is why part of my vision makes reference to these areas, given the very poor communication and management of relationships that has happened at all levels during the past two years.

It is my intention to ensure that communications and flow of information are enhanced, and proper inclusion and engagement are critical if we are to move away from the mistakes of the past. As a member of Scrutiny, properly managing the relationship between Ministers and Scrutiny is hugely important.

Being Deputy Chief Minister during the global pandemic clearly shows my ability to work under intense and prolonged pressure and also to deal with some of the most difficult decisions members can possibly imagine.

Clearly the Chief Minister and the Council of Ministers have the responsibility to lead when policy is developed, but it is critical that proper engagement does take place in relation to the development of such policy at an early stage. This has not always been the case.

My skill and style is working with a team. It cannot be acceptable for Ministers to operate in silos, not working properly with each other, leading to dysfunctional outcomes.

I am committed to ensuring that Assistant Ministers should be fully involved with the department and should also have experience within other areas. They must have full access to all aspects of the Ministerial brief and be capable of stepping in, in the absence of the Minister.

As I assemble the team, it will be a team that is focussed on delivery and solutions to problems not just words. We have 2 years to resolve and achieve a number of critical issues and must ensure focus on delivering on these critical areas.

I want to start with a clean sheet, and a new team, without the fear of retribution, and to move forward together, positively and openly, as a team, for the benefit of our Island and those who live on it.

Curriculum Vitae

Summary

Company Director and Business Consultant (36+ years)
Member of the States Assembly (18 years)
Member Privileges and Procedures Committee
Member Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel
Member Jersey Police Authority
Member Bailiff's Consultative Panel
Honorary Life Member Jersey Battle of Flowers Association

Career History

2022 to date : Member Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel
Member Privileges and Procedures Committee
Member Jersey Police Authority
Member Bailiff's Consultative Panel

2018 – 2022 : Deputy Chief Minister
Minister for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport & Culture
Chair – Our Hospital Political Oversight Group
Chair – Anti Inflation Group

2014 – 2018 : Minister for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport & Culture

2011/12 - 2014 : Assistant Minister Home Affairs
President Jersey Hospitality Association
Member Justice Advisory Panel
Member Tourism Marketing Panel

2000 – 2002 : President Jersey Battle of Flowers Association

1999 – 2005 : Deputy of St Saviour No 2 district

Positions held during this period :

President - Gambling Control Committee

Vice President – Economic Development Committee

Vice President – Harbours & Airport Committee

Chairman – Jersey Tourism Board

Chairman – Tourism Development Fund

Chairman – Jersey Conference Bureau

Chairman – Emerging Industries Board

I also served on a number of other Committees, Boards and Trusts

1998 – 1997 : Committee Member Jersey Battle of Flowers Association

1982 – 1985 : Former Harrods Management Trainee, graduated from College for the Distributive Trades (London).

1976 – 1981 : Secondary education : Les Quennevais school and Hautlieu

Foreign Languages Spoken :

French

Other :

Interests : Running, Walking (with my dog Winston) Cycling, Swimming, Triathlon, Reading, History, Music (drumming) and Politics.

Member: Jersey Heritage Trust and National Trust Jersey.

Statement by Deputy Ian Joseph Gorst of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter made in accordance with Standing Order 115(c)

Strategic Vision

Stability and confidence

I am honoured to have been approached by a number of States Members asking if I would consider standing for the office. As Members are aware, I have served previously as Chief Minister, as well as in a number of other ministerial posts, and I therefore believe I can offer the experience and stability that Jersey needs over the next two-and-a-half years before the next General Election. We need a laser focus to deliver action which will improve the lives of islanders.

I also recognise that States Members, and Islanders, are looking for change. If appointed, I would put forward a new Council of Ministers, with changes aimed at achieving as broad a consensus as possible across the Assembly.

We are living in challenging and turbulent times, both locally and further afield. We face a number of significant economic and societal challenges which we must address if Jersey is to continue to enjoy the prosperity of previous years, and if our success is to be shared across the community. Our challenges are great enough without making life harder for ourselves internally. Jersey's reputation is built on stability, confidence and competitiveness. We will restore and maintain our reputation for all three without delay, and I will work with Members across the Assembly to achieve the change that is necessary to do so. Without doing so, we won't be able to improve the standard of living for all islanders.

We need to meet our challenges together, as a unified States Assembly, working together in the interests of the public. I have listened to, and heard, the feedback from Members on creating greater inclusivity in policy development, and service delivery. A new Government of which I am Chief Minister will work with Scrutiny as a critical friend to ensure we are developing and debating high quality policy and legislation, and we will work with the Connétables so that the Parishes remain at the heart of our community. Whilst the Troy Rule restricts the number of Ministers and Assistant Ministers to a maximum of 21, I will ensure that Members who wish to share in the decision-making process, working with Government, are given an opportunity to do so, including through Ministerial Groups and other relevant forums, such as the Legislation Advisory Panel and States Employment Board.

Challenges

As a small community, the work of the Government impacts on the life of every islander. We will take decisions which improve the lives of individuals and families in Jersey, making their daily lives easier and simpler, and being an enabler for positive change and development.

I wish, at this stage, to recognise the effort and commitment of the outgoing Chief Minister. I have seen Deputy Moore's commitment to Jersey first-hand, and I know how hard she worked as Chief Minister.

The challenges we face as a community have not changed following the vote of no confidence. I will retain a focus on the issues which matter most to the public – to families and to businesses – and to ensuring our long-term strategic competitiveness.

In developing this statement, we must keep in mind that the Government Plan, which Members agreed in December, will still be in place for 2024 and our action must therefore fit within this financial framework.

Cost of living

If I am appointed as Chief Minister by the Assembly, I will ensure that Government continues to support Islanders with the cost-of-living, putting money back in people's pockets. We will work with community and voluntary groups to identify all means by which we can further support islanders with everyday costs, and where assistance can be best and most effectively directed.

The Government will increase competition across all sectors, ensuring that prices can be as low and competitive as possible. This will include work to deliver an amended Competition Law. We will make it easier to do business in Jersey, working with industry to ensure that regulation is balanced appropriately with our ongoing competitiveness.

We will keep taxes low, and thresholds will continue to rise year-on-year. Duty rises will be kept to a minimum, and targeted support enhanced through the social security system to those islanders who need it most.

We will continue to make progress towards the target of bringing the minimum wage up to 2/3 of median earnings by the end of the Government's term of office, and the new Government will engage with the Employment Forum to bring forward viable options for delivering the living wage across economic sectors, working together with business groups, employee representatives and community organisations.

Housing

We will continue to address the housing crisis by building more homes and supporting first-time buyers through an enhanced number of assisted purchase schemes. We will bring forward plans for the re-development of St Saviour's hospital into a village which includes affordable housing and keyworker accommodation. We will eliminate bureaucratic barriers to development and build on the work of the Mckinnon review and consult industry and the public to deliver improvements to the planning service.

The new ministerial team will engage with lenders to ensure that Jersey residents have access to as competitive and fair interest rates as are possible.

The work to introduce a new residential tenancy law – providing greater protections for landlords and tenants – will proceed and the landlord licensing scheme will be implemented.

I will support the use of States investment funds to support first-time buyers with affordable purchases – using our prudence over many years to support Jersey families. I was Chief Minister when we established Andium Homes, and I will continue to support Andium in its work to deliver more and improved social, key worker and first-time buyer housing.

Island workforce and skills

Recruitment is a challenge across the economy, including in the public sector. The Government will seek to negotiate further bi-lateral agreements to encourage seasonal workers to our island, following the success of the agreement with Antigua and Barbuda.

We will continue to invest in education and skills training, focusing on ensuring that islanders are equipped for the jobs of the future. We will promote more learning opportunities in the island, particularly in higher education by developing strategic partnerships with external academic institutions, including UK universities. We will also allow our schools to have more autonomy, putting trust in our educational leaders.

We will identify and address the underlying issues which are impacting the recruitment of health and care sector staff, improving the welcome we offer to new key workers and the quality of their accommodation. We will expand on-island training and development for our future workforce.

A strong, stable and sustainable economy

We will promote, encourage, and support growth and increased productivity across the economy. Building on the foundations of the Future Economy Programme, we will restore and promote confidence for businesses to invest and locate to Jersey.

As Chief Minister, I will maintain the higher level support for the agriculture and fishing industries, and support tourism and hospitality by reviewing the Tourism Law and Licensing Law. We will encourage diversification and support new businesses in the digital and fintech sector.

Financial Services remains Jersey's biggest single employer, and the largest generator of tax receipts – helping to fund our core public services. The Government will work closely with industry and the regulator as we move forward with work following the Moneyval Assessment. I will robustly defend the industry on the international stage where necessary, ensuring our views and interests are represented effectively and clearly in Westminster, the EU and other global forums. As Head of Government, I will support the industry both within the island and in our key global markets – upholding our reputation for being a well-regulated, mature, and competitive place in which to do business. I have a proven track record of achievement in this crucial area.

I am a supporter of the enhanced funding for the arts, culture and heritage, and will seek to ensure that we utilise these assets to promote everything that is good about our island.

Air and sea connectivity will be key to economic growth and diversification. We will work with Ports of Jersey to secure a wider route network, and with Guernsey to secure our long-term sea passenger and freight links with the UK and France.

Health

As Treasury Minister, I have ensured more money has been invested in our health service, including in meeting deficits.

I have been a member of the New Healthcare Facilities Ministerial Group since July 2022 and support the current plans for the new hospital. The existing plan will continue to move forward and be delivered. We cannot delay this project any further. At all times, I will focus on the project delivering improved clinical outcomes for islanders, and ensuring that taxpayers are getting value for money.

We will support the existing work to bring health spending under control, ensuring value for money and improved services, and targeting resources toward the front line where they are needed most. We will target continue to reduce waiting lists, and increase the numbers of permanent staff working in our hospital.

I supported the creation of the Health Board and will support and engage with its work to deliver the further service delivery improvements we need.

We have made excellent progress to improve our adult and children's mental health services, with additional investment which I supported as Treasury Minister, and I am committed to consolidating that progress and further enhancing it. We will also promote, encourage and enable active and healthy living in Jersey.

If I am appointed as Chief Minister, a debate on the legalisation of assisted dying will take place before the next election, in order that the States can debate this crucial issue.

An inclusive community

If appointed to lead a new Government, we will continue our support for vulnerable islanders and raise standards of living for families on low incomes by growing the economy and increasing productivity.

We will support young people in our care to have a loving upbringing and the opportunity of a fulfilling and happy life.

We will value and promote Jersey's diverse community and challenge discrimination in all its forms. We will encourage integration into our community and improved relations between all communities in the island.

I will ensure a close and ongoing dialogue with faith leaders in the island.

Working with the Minister for Social Security, we will continue to work through the Older Persons Forum and with Age Concern to better meet the needs of pensioners.

The public realm

We will continue to invest in our infrastructure – making decisions in the next two years on a site for a new Fire and Ambulance Headquarters, new primary schools in St Helier, and new green space in St Helier. We will find a permanent home for the sea cadets and bring La Folie back into use for the benefit of our community and economy.

We will finalise the purchase of the site of the former seaside café at Greve de Lecq on behalf of the public, delivering a community asset which will benefit islanders.

We will work with the Jersey Development Company and planning to bring forward improved and more acceptable proposals for the Waterfront and South Hill.

Fort Regent has the potential to once again be a gem in Jersey's crown. The new Chief Minister will need to be realistic. At present, there is no funding in place to redevelop Fort Regent. I will work with Members across the Assembly, and with industry groups to move forward with workable and deliverable proposals for the short-term and long-term use of the Fort, which recognise its history as a public asset and a community venue.

Environment

The Government will continue to encourage and enable islanders to be more environmentally friendly and reduce our carbon emissions in a proportionate, incentivised, consensus-based manner.

We will continue to progress work to investigate options for our future energy needs, supporting investment in renewable energy.

The public sector

I have worked closely with public servants in Jersey for nearly 20 years, and greatly admire the work and commitment of our public service. This has particularly been in evidence over the past 12 months.

I will decentralise the Cabinet Office, strengthen links between Ministers and their departments, and improve co-ordination at the heart of Government, both within the executive and with the Assembly. These will be carefully targeted refinements to structures. I will ensure that focus moves onto delivery and implementation.

We will ensure that everyday spending continues to be properly controlled, with increases that are affordable and aimed at front-line services. Pay rises will need to be equitable, affordable, and proportionate. Beyond our existing borrowing and that which is needed for the new hospital at Overdale, I do not support any further public sector debt. Where possible, we need to replenish the Stabilisation Fund to ensure that we have cash reserves readily available in the event of an economic shock. This served us well in 2008.

Islanders recognise that we need more health and care sector workers as we deal with our ageing population, and that we must continue to invest in health services, education and our infrastructure. Any additional resources must be directed to the frontline. Therefore, over the next two Government Plans, any growth will only be directed towards the front line.

Jersey and the world

Jersey must promote itself in the world if we are to protect our prosperity at home, and I would therefore retain the fundamental tenets of the existing External Relations Common Policy. Working with a new External Relations Minister, I will ensure that Jersey's voice is heard where and when it matters for the Island.

We will seek to maintain and build on our close links with the UK Government and Parliamentarians, as Jersey's most important bi-lateral partnership, following the UK General Election. I also support the existing work to enhance our diplomatic, cultural and trading links with France. The new Government will also need to continue developing important bi-lateral relations across Europe, and with the EU institutions.

We will deliver further bi-lateral investment and tax treaties with key global partners, enabling greater business flows between us.

I am a strong proponent of joint Channel Island working across domestic and international policy. On every possible occasion, I will work to ensure that the Channel Islands (and indeed all three Crown Dependencies) speak with one unified voice in the world.

I will also seek closer relations with Members who are serving on the British-Irish Parliamentary Assembly, the Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie, and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, so we can work together in Jersey's best interests.

Consensus-based Government

I have always believed in Jersey's consensus-based system, with Members working together to serve our community. This requires co-operation, communication and compromise across the Assembly. I will work equally with independent members, and those who have been elected as part of a party group.

In our first 18 months, we have struggled to build consensus across the Assembly. The atmosphere has been downbeat and too negative. I would like to work with Members to improve our relations. That is not to say that the Assembly should not rigorously hold Ministers to account on policy and delivery. A lively Assembly is a key part of our democracy.

I recognise the need and expectation for change, and have already committed to involving Members in decision making structures should they wish. As Chief Minister, I will offer to attend upon the Comité des Connétables on at least a quarterly basis to discuss matters that are of importance to the Parishes and to ensure we improve our dialogue and co-ordination. I will also meet regularly with the Chair of the Privileges and Procedures Committee. This is in addition to regular engagements with the President of the Scrutiny Liaison Committee, and with Panels in both public and private briefings.

I will form a Chief Minister's consultative panel, to discuss issues of national importance that cut across any political spectrums. I would also welcome the thoughts of Members as to how we can make the best use of the talents of all Members for the benefit of islanders, and improve relations between the Government and non-executive.

Discharging responsibilities as Chief Minister

The Chief Minister is the Head of Government, and a key leader in decision-making in Jersey.

As Members will know, I have served in the role previously. I offer myself at this time to provide stability and confidence for Jersey – politically, economically and within our community. I believe I have the experience to take us through to the next election, and to deliver the key policies and projects that will improve the lives of every islander.

The public need a new leader who can quickly re-establish and re-focus the Government on meeting their priorities on housing, the cost-of-living and other key social issues. We must hit the ground running and make the changes needed if we are to deliver successfully.

I have reflected and learnt from my time in office from 2011-2018. As Chief Minister, I will lead, I will listen, and I will build consensus. These are turbulent times, and we know that we will face significant challenges. I will be inclusive as we drive forward the change we need, and I will work on the basis that we are to tackle the issues we face collectively. I will support my colleagues around the Council of Ministers table, and within the Assembly, as we deliver change.

As Chief Minister, my door will always be open. I will seek to be an effective and trusted representative of the Government and of our Island, both within Jersey, nationally and

internationally. I hope that my commitment to Jersey is unquestionable, as is my passion for creating a more inclusive community, raising standards of living and standing up for vulnerable people.

We have two-and-a-half years to keep the commitments we made to the public in 2022. Moving forward together, we can deliver for the public we serve.