

**Green Hustings – Potential Questions - Jersey Zoo, Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May, 5:30-9pm Key themes to consider:**

- Transport
- Energy
- Heating cooking cooling
- Carbon neutrality / net zero
- Biodiversity / Local wildlife
- Agriculture
- Marine environment
- Offsetting / carbon sequestration
- Finance - circular economy
- Island Plan development – environmental and sustainability impacts
- Waste management
- International responsibility - Paris / COP26
- Scope emissions - scope 3 - education and awareness

Basic/starter questions:

- *What is your stance/opinion on climate change and Jersey's role/current commitment to tackling it?*

We put 12 billion tonnes of fossil fuels into the air every year. Global temperatures have increased in line with the growth of fossil fuel usage.

So, logically there is a link.

Jersey in itself is not either by size nor by per capita a major problem. China is 3 billion of those tonnes and is building fossil fuel burning plant to increase by another 20% or so.

Oil producing will do what they can to

However, in making ourselves committed to an objective, it can and should be solving issues in Jersey as our international impact is not significant and we will not be considered global leaders.

One question for sitting Deputies and one for all candidates:

- Sitting Deputies: *what, in your mind, was your greatest environmental or sustainability-related political achievement in the last four years?*
- Sitting Deputies and new candidates: *What is your biggest environmental or sustainability-related political goal in the next four years?*

I believe Jersey is unnecessarily dominated by vehicles, between roads, parking, and location of parking such as the avenue and Pier road car park.

I would like to see a reduction of car usage, through promoting bike, foot, home delivery by supermarkets, car share and any other ideas. The issue is to make not having a car is no hinderance.

We also have incredible amount of wind and tidal power. I would love to see a scheme that is acceptable to those wishing minimise environmental impact and be financially viable.

*"What credentials and experience do you have to advance Jersey's sustainability initiatives as we tackle the climate and biodiversity crisis?"*

I do not wish to claim "credentials", I think we really need to ensure our initiatives are ones that have an effect on Jersey as I do not think we will influence the major countries such as China who will follow their own agenda, which is to raise the living standard of the Chinese.

#### **Themes: Local**

- **GoJ** - The States Assembly have declared a Climate Emergency. In order for GoJ to expect and encourage Islanders and businesses to decarbonise, it must lead by example and do the same. *What areas do you see as the priority areas for decarbonising within your Parish?*

Reduction of Cars in St Helier and those driving through it. Rouge Bouillon / St Saviours road are dominated by through traffic. I am sure they create air quality issues but also, are horrendous to cycle or walk next to.

#### **Energy -**

- Jersey is fortunate to have a low-carbon nuclear hydro mix electricity supply. However, the local energy market has not been immune to factors such as global price insecurity, geopolitical impacts, mismatches in supply and demand, the rise of renewables and the implementation of Brexit, with recent substantial increases in the price of all energy types. It seems that the interplay between energy security, sustainability and affordability is more relevant than ever.

- Energy supply and agency over the Island's own production of electricity is a growing issue, which was exacerbated by the fishing disputes in 2021. *What is your stance on Jersey's current energy supply, would you change it and if so, how and why?*

I would love to see tidal and wind power being used and given the project/s would support it.

Nuclear power not taken up in the UK due to activists conflating the issue with Nuclear weapons. I am sure those activities were also promoted by vested interests in the fossil fuel industries. However, I think it was missed opportunity.

Could we / do we want a nuclear power station in Jersey, not sure if we could get one the right size.

I do not like reliance on France, as we have seen with Putin and the fishing rights with France, Power is a political weapon people are perfectly willing to use.

So, I feel the answer would be tidal power, how it is done is the issue and will be an issue for many who support the idea in principle but not in practice.

- Smaller scale renewable generation presents a decentralised solution that is different to the centralised import and distribution model that exists in Jersey. The potential transition from centralised to decentralised systems presents both financial and infrastructural challenges to electricity suppliers. *How do you think the relationship between the main grid and distributed generation technologies at the household level needs to be managed?* E.g. how would you work with Jersey Electricity to encourage the incentivisation and uptake of renewable microgeneration for Islanders?

I do not think we can encourage a business unless it is financially viable. I am concerned micro production is inefficient and would like to see the evidence. Especially the environmental impact of the production of such micro “generators.”

- Energy and heating - The transformation of energy systems to low-carbon is fundamental to decarbonisation. Jersey's electricity source is already low-carbon, however a large number of Islanders homes are run/heated using fossil fuels, such as oil or gas. There is a large infrastructural cost associated with switching to electric/low-carbon systems. The CNR has outlined policies to support the installation of residential low-carbon heating systems. However, the proposed subsidies only cover a fraction of the cost of switching. *If you secured your seat in the Assembly, what would you do to support the switch to low-carbon heating systems for residents on the Island?*

Firstly, immediate replacement of efficiently running systems may be inefficient in terms of reducing the overall effect on Carbon reduction e.g. the production of new plant produces carbon.

Secondly, we need to look at those which can be done efficiently, e.g. housing estates encouraged to convert on mass, rather than one house at a time.

For private homeowners the replacement of an inefficient system will financially benefit from it when sold, it is a home improvement. Therefore, people can pay for it themselves, however if this is an issue, The States could provide loans and claim the settlement and interest when the property changes hands.

### **Transport –**

- The most recently published IPCC report, titled: Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change, highlights the need for governments to look at the provision of low carbon transport in order to reduce carbon emissions and limit warming 1.5°C.
- The Transport Sector is Jersey's largest source of emissions, with road transport accounting for 32% of emissions (2019). Therefore, transport is a priority sector to address in tackling the Climate Emergency and Jersey achieving net zero by 2050. *What do you believe are the key areas within the transport sector that need addressing in order to achieve a reduction in emissions and benefit local Islanders?*

It is important to ensure that alternatives to cars are better. Cycling and walking as transport should be heavily promoted and rewarded.

The cost of the land use required for cars is not properly priced in for car users.

I think we should move to driverless cars as soon as practicable. Cars are used less than 10% of the time so prime for sharing.

*If elected, how would you support the development and funding of active travel on the Island?*

Yes

- *What initiatives do you plan on implementing within your parish to support the Sustainable Transport Policy and encourage increased sustainable transport amongst your Parishioners.*

Being on a bike on Jersey / St. Helier roads is an unpleasant experience. Drivers assume they have priority and you are a mobile chicane. We need to encourage the use of bikes and to do that we need to make the roads safer / more pleasant for cyclists and pedestrians. Car free (predominantly car free) routes through town for commuters, shoppers with access to seaside, Park and countryside.

- The publication of the Jersey Children and Young People's Survey 2021 highlighted a gender imbalance for cycling amongst young people in Years 8, 10, 12. The report stated that 'dancing was more likely to be undertaken by females, while football, cricket and cycling were more likely to be undertaken by males', with 39% of females cycling in the last month, in contrast to 59% of males.
- *What would you do to address the gender gap for active travel and encourage cycling for all young people on the Island?*

Please see response to previous question.

- Sustainable transport week was a huge success, with schools adopting 'walking buses' from town/an initial meeting point and walking through town to school. This week has proven that if you put the appropriate procedures in place, it can be a success. *What are your views on walking routes to school and would you do want to develop this within your parish? If so, how would you implement it/what is your priority for developing safer walking routes to schools within your parish?*
- As an Island 9x5 miles, it is reasonable to suggest that Jersey could be a hub for innovation and be used as an innovation test bed, such as for electric cars, or e-micro mobility vehicles. *What are your views on this and what would you do to develop this opportunity for the Island?*

Totally agree, but I would like to avoid a headlong rush for electric cars. The environmental impact of producing an electric vehicle is quite high. I would like to

see new cars on the island being electric. But I want to reduce the overall number of vehicles to improve our life on this limited space we have.

Driverless vehicles using ride hailing apps, would be a better experience, we need to see how economically viable and how soon.

- **Carbon Neutral Roadmap** - carbon neutrality - *what initiatives will you put in place to bolster the green credentials of your parish, or constituency, in order to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030/Net Zero by 2050?*

As above

- **Carbon neutrality / net zero** - Most scientists and experts agree that a target of 2050 to achieve 'net zero' carbon emissions is nowhere near ambitious enough and will have catastrophic consequences around the world. In their most recently published report on the Mitigation of Climate Change, the IPCC says that there must be "rapid, deep and immediate" cuts in carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions. *What will you do to ensure that Jersey takes action to significantly reduce carbon emissions during the next term?*

As stated previously.

**Biodiversity** – increased biodiversity / greening of St Helier –

- Increased biodiversity and greenery can provide many physical and mental health benefits to users of an area, as well as the draw down of carbon. *What role would you play in implementing the greening of St Helier/your parish?*

I am fully supportive of increasing Millennium Park and the garden city goal for St. Helier.

We need encourage the reduction of car usage and ownership in Jersey by providing viable alternatives.

- *What measures will you put in place during the next term to ensure that environmental biodiversity will be protected and enhanced?*

My focus in the next assembly is to ensure that the Civil Service is responsive to the Assembly. We are seeing an obsession with large building projects which could remain where they were/are or utilise Brown field space.

I will support the extension of Millennium Park and the greening of St Helier.

- *Do you think that we need more habitat protection, in order to conserve wildlife? If so, what type of land areas should be protected and what would you do as a potential Deputy to implement this?*

Jersey is very green and should remain so, the problem is the increasing population as seen on a global basis. So, if we are to see more people without using more green space, then we need to have better quality higher density living space, the only real option is to reduce car density.

- The Taskforce for Nature-Related Financial Disclosure, endorsed by the UN, provides a framework for risk management and disclosure for organisations to report and act on nature-related risks. *Once this is officially published in September 2023, would you support the adoption of mandatory introductions of nature based financial disclosures for organisations based in Jersey, particularly within the Finance Sector?*

Yes the investor needs to know what the impacts of their investment for a multitude of reasons.

- **Blue Marine Foundation briefing** - 'How to Make Jersey a Marine Sustainability Leader in Europe'. The proposed protected marine area was rejected by the current States Assembly despite its sequestration and biodiversity potential. *To those sitting representatives, how did you vote on the recent Marine Spatial Plan proposition, and why did you vote as such, and for those new candidates how would you have voted and why?*

I do not think Jersey should be concerning itself with Leadership in Europe. We should focus on ourselves and immediate neighbours.

#### **Agriculture**

- Agriculture is a core part of Jersey's heritage, economy and some Islanders livelihoods. *What are your thoughts on pushing the need for sustainable farming practices, particularly policies of regenerative agriculture*

I would love to see Jersey providing a substantial portion of the islands food demands. However, the economics of small farms and costs of labour make it difficult to see happen in volumes necessary.

- Local food security – The UN has warned of a global food crisis that could last for years, following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Additionally, India's recent ban on exporting wheat puts further pressure on the global food market. We are an Island with a fragile system at the mercy of weather and infrastructure to deliver good and services to the Island.
- *What are your views on the Island's level of food security, and would you change anything? If so, what would you want to change and how?*

We are very vulnerable to food security. See answer to last question.

- *How to you plan on supporting and developing the agricultural industry within your parish?*

*There is no agriculture in St Helier Central. For the island agriculture should be encouraged to produce as much food as possible to be consumed locally.*

- **Financing our future** – in trying to reach net zero by 2050, one must question where the responsibility lies to fund this large task, and what level of financial support will be given to tackling the Climate Emergency? The Carbon Neutral Roadmap (CNR) sets out an initial set of costed policies to work towards reaching net-zero by 2050. The Assembly has declared a Climate Emergency,

however, it is currently not allocating appropriate funds internally within GoJ to deliver on this. *What would you do to ensure that the CNR receives appropriate funding to reach net zero by 2050?*

### **Circular economy**

- *What are your views on the circular economy and its applicability to Jersey?*
- *What initiatives would you put in place to encourage the adoption/transition to a circular economy for the Island?*
- *Waste is an ever growing issue within a high consuming society. What are your views on parish recycling and what would you do to develop recycling rates within your parish?*

*We have nearly all our food and subsequent waste is imported. I would love to see the reduction of packaging.*

### **International**

- **The Paris Agreement / COP26** - COP26 was the first time Jersey delegates participated with the conference. Agreements were made. *How do you plan to build relations with global delegates and to further play your part in meeting agreed targets? / how would you plan on Jersey expanding its impact and representation at the next COP?*

*I do not wish for Jersey to extend its impact as a goal. We should do what is right and if that is leadership, great. If we are ignored we are still doing what needs to be done here in Jersey.*

- An outcome of COP26 was a global pledge to end and reverse deforestation by 2030. *What role would you play in helping Jersey contribute to this pledge, despite the limited support for this pledge within the CNR?*
- **Finance** - the UK has ambitions to become the “first ever net-zero-aligned financial centre” - it’s clear there is a real space for us at the table given Jersey’s expertise and progress in this sector already - *how do you plan to support Jersey’s finance industry in collaboration with the UK to provide a solution in their decarbonisation journey?*
- **Our impact globally and responsibility on the world - scope 3** – The Carbon Neutral Roadmap policy OE1 Promoting low-carbon lifestyles, the Government of Jersey will: Develop and deliver an education and engagement programme to help Islanders to reduce their off-Island (scope 3) emissions. *As a Parish, what policies or strategies would you hope to implement in order to reduce your scope 3 emissions?*
- **Offsetting** - Jersey should be investing in offsets as soon as possible to minimise initial cost and encourage early growth and establishment of (rain)forests. If the policies outlined within the CNR are successful in reducing Jersey’s carbon emissions, costs associated with carbon offsets should only reduce over time. It is worrying that GoJ have not made an official policy on carbon offsets within the CNR. Some worry that the decision to review and produce a carbon offset framework in 2025, along with the decision on becoming carbon neutral to be taken by 2028 is too late. *What is your opinion on this, and what would you do to support GoJ, or your parish, in producing a carbon offsetting policy?*

For wanting change/things done differently for environmental commitments:

- *You will make many commitments as a politician, but how will you actually ensure these are achieved? If you have been a deputy before, what will you do differently this term to improve achievements?*

My commitment is to work with other people, that is the nature of an assembly. To take all points of view and hopefully arrive at a better solution than the opinion of one person or section of society.

Without a shadow of a doubt we can do better, and so we need to find out what is inhibiting good behaviour/ outcomes or encouraging bad ones, so we can resolve the issues at their root. It is therefore imperative we get clarity in government, we currently have opaque decision-making resulting in irrational results.