

Alderney States Member

An Alderney States Member is an elected political representative and office holder. Whilst there is generally no statutory job description for politicians, which means how they carry out their role may vary, they are broadly responsible for representing constituents, working and agreeing on policies, legislation and setting the strategic direction for the Island.

The role of a States Member includes staying in close touch with the electorate and other members of the public to understand their views and concerns. Whilst Members are expected to scrutinize and monitor operations, their main focus should be on policymaking and the scrutiny of legislation, promoting the States objectives, fostering Alderney's fiscal and economic resilience and ensuring that public funds are used to best advantage when delivering services and using resources. They should avoid handling day-to-day operational matters, which are the responsibility of the Civil Service.

States Members play a crucial role in representing the electorate and shaping the future of Alderney.

Values

Members should observe the Code of Conduct for States Members which includes the Overarching Principles for Conduct of holders of public office (also known as the Nolan principles):

- ▶ **Selflessness** – to act solely in terms of the public interest.
- ▶ **Integrity** – to avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships.
- ▶ **Objectivity** – to act and make decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without unlawful discrimination or bias.
- ▶ **Accountability** – to be accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this.
- ▶ **Openness** – to act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing.
- ▶ **Honesty** – to be truthful
- ▶ **Leadership** – to exhibit these principles in their own behaviour and treat others with respect. To actively promote and robustly support the principles and challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs.

Duties

1. **Policy and Direction:** To work on and agree on policies and the broader direction for the Island. Working collaboratively with the UK Government, as a Crown dependency and self-governing jurisdiction within the Bailiwick of Guernsey and with the States of Guernsey, with whom Alderney is in fiscal unity (see Alderney (Application of Legislation) Law, 1948).

2. **Representation:** To represent the electorate and stay in close touch with voters and the public to understand their views and concerns, to act as an island Ambassador.
3. **Scrutiny and Monitoring:** To scrutinize and monitor operations to ensure they align with policies, setting the framework in which the administration and executive should function but avoiding handling day-to-day operational matters.
4. **Collaboration:** To work closely with Civil Servants and other Members during policy formation and legislative changes, while respecting the boundaries of their roles.
5. **Communication:** To engage in discussions with voters, listen to their opinions, and consider their input when making decisions.
6. **Attendance:** To participate in States meetings, People's Meetings, and other forums as required.
 - To make best endeavours to attend all meetings of the States of Alderney (whether scheduled or not)
 - To serve on at least one Committee of the States and conscientiously undertake all the ancillary work that derives from the work of that Committee (which may involve supplementary meetings and activities)
 - To read in advance (and give proper thought to) all States papers in relation to each meeting attended.
7. **Decision-Making:** To vote on policies and decisions during States Assembly meetings and Committee meetings in good faith and in the best interests of the people of Alderney.

States Members are expected to act professionally, respect confidentiality, comply with the Members' Code of Conduct and work in partnership with the community to achieve the best results for the island. They are the Ambassadors for the island.

