

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY J.H. YOUNG OF ST. BRELADE
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 2nd DECEMBER 2013**

Question

Will the Chief Minister inform the Assembly of his policy priorities for the environment and whether these policies enjoy the wholehearted support of the Council of Ministers?

Answer

The Chief Minister's policy priorities for the environment are set out in the Strategic Plan, which enjoys the complete support of the Council of Ministers.

The development of sustainable long term planning is a key priority of the Plan and much work has already been undertaken, and continues to be undertaken, to provide a robust and comprehensive environmental policy framework for the Island.

Environmental policy priorities are also set by the requirements of the multi-lateral environmental commitments to which Jersey is a signatory, all of which are fully supported by the Council of Ministers.

A list of the Multi-lateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and relevant policies are included below.

Convention	Principal Policy/ legislation ¹
Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD)	Biodiversity strategy
Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn) Treaty extended	Biodiversity strategy
African-Eurasian Water bird Agreement (AEWA) – Treaty extended	Biodiversity strategy
Memorandum of Migratory Birds of Prey in Africa and Eurasia	Biodiversity strategy
Agreement on the Conservation of European Bats (EUROBATS) – Agreement & 2 Amendments (1995 & 2000)	Biodiversity strategy
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern)	Biodiversity strategy
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)	Endangered Species (CITES)(Jersey) law 2012
International Plant Protection Convention	Plant Health (Jersey) law 2003
Agreement on the Conservation of small cetaceans of the Baltic, North East Atlantic, Irish and North Seas (ASCOBANS) – Agreement extended but not Amendment	Integrated coastal zone management strategy (ICZM) 2008

¹ Principal policies and legislation are listed here. It should be noted that other policies and strategies support these in an integrated policy framework.

Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as a Waterfowl Habitat – Treaty, Amendment & Protocol extended	RAMSAR management plan 2011
Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and other Matter 1972 – Treaty & Protocol below	ICZM 2008
1996 Protocol to the above Convention	ICZM 2008
Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North East Atlantic (OSPAR)	Water Resources (Jersey) Law 2007 ICZM 200
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	Draft Energy Plan
Kyoto Protocol to above Convention	Draft Energy Plan
UN Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone layer – Treaty & Protocol below extended	Air Quality strategy 2012
Montreal Protocol to above Convention	Air Quality strategy 2012
UNECE Convention on Long Range Trans boundary Air Pollution and Associated Protocols (CLRTAP)	Air Quality strategy 2012
Associated Protocols to above Convention	Air Quality strategy 2012
Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in Trans boundary Context (ESPOO) – Treaty extended but not the 2 Amendments or Protocol	Planning and Building (Environmental Impact)(Jersey) Order 2006 Supplementary Planning guidance practice note 10 (July 2011)
Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta)	Island Plan 2011
Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada)	Island Plan 2011
Basel Convention of the Control of Trans boundary Waste, Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal – Treaty & Amendment extended but not Protocol	Waste Management (Jersey) Law 2005

Issues such as; climate change adaptation and mitigation; ensuring secure, affordable and sustainable energy; protecting habitats and biodiversity; management of our countryside and coastline; protection of heritage assets; ensuring high quality air and water; ensuring the sustainable management of waste; and encouraging sustainable use of finite resources, present significant environmental challenges.

The policies identified in the table above - which include the 2011 Island Plan, the Air Quality Strategy, Biodiversity Strategy, and the draft Energy Plan - are all important environmental policy tools, which enjoy the support of the Council of Ministers.

The development of environmental policy cannot be undertaken in isolation and the Chief Minister, together with his Council of Ministers, is working to develop a long-term strategic policy framework which will set a balanced set of social, economic and environmental policy objectives for the Island for the next twenty years.