

STATES OF JERSEY



STRATEGIC PLAN 2006 TO 2011 (P.40/2006): SIXTEENTH AMENDMENT

Lodged au Greffe on 6th June 2006
by the Deputy of St. Ouen

STATES GREFFE

STRATEGIC PLAN 2006 TO 2011 (P.40/2006): SIXTEENTH AMENDMENT

After the word “Appendix” insert the words –

“, except that,

In Commitment 6, after Outcome 6.3 insert a new Outcome as follows –

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6.4	Development of a long-term relationship between the States and the Parishes.
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”

Indicated by:

- The provision of cost-effective services provided by or for the Parishes
- More joint working between States and Parishes
- Clearly defined roles between Parishes and the States
- Coordinated approach to waste disposal

What we will do:

- 6.4.1 Enhance the role of the Parishes as a community resource and support the Honorary Police system (CM)
- 6.4.2 Encourage support and sustain community and parish activities (CM)
- 6.4.3 Develop a strategy that will enhance the relationship between the States and the Parishes (CM)”.’”.

DEPUTY OF ST. OUEN

REPORT

The purpose of this amendment is to restate one of the aims included in last year's Strategic Plan which has been omitted from this new Plan.

Now, more than ever, the States must recognise and foster the relationship between the States and the Parishes. With the recent decision to introduce a new rates system to cover welfare and residential costs it is essential that this relationship is maintained and developed. From this year parishioners will be paying two rates bills, one covering the cost of running the Parish and another that will go to the States to pay for the welfare and residential costs which the States have recently taken responsibility for.

The costs associated with the running of the Parish include waste collection and maintaining minor roads, as well as providing facilities for the local community. These costs cannot be viewed in isolation, especially at a time when we are looking at issues such as minimising waste by recycling.

The States have recently formally recognised the Comité des Connétables with a Chairman who meets with the Council of Ministers on a regular basis and is, at present, one of the Chief Minister's Assistant Ministers. Furthermore, partnerships are being promoted in the Strategic Plan between the Parishes and other departments to provide for our Youth. It is therefore essential that the States clearly declare their commitment to support this relationship.

For centuries all Parishes have provided an honorary police force which has not only been effective in policing our Island, but has actively contributed to reducing the cost of law enforcement and combating crime. This must be maintained and actively supported. Many other individuals have voluntarily given of their time to support the community in which they live. This is a fantastic resource and one that needs to be fostered and given the due prominence it deserves.

With all of this in mind it is essential that we rightfully include this amendment into the new Strategic Plan. Finally, it is important that the States as a whole recognise that Parish ratepayers are for the most part the same individuals who contribute to the income of the States by way of their individual taxes. It therefore follows that they deserve to be considered in this light when financial decisions are being made.

There are no additional financial or manpower implications arising from this amendment.