

From: Lieutenant Colonel A. J. C. Woodrow, LVO, OBE, MC, QGM, Chief of Staff



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Senator Sarah Ferguson
Chairman Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel
Scrutiny Office
States Greffe
Morier House
St Helier
JE1 1DD

Dear Senator Ferguson,

His Excellency has asked me to thank you for your letter dated 11 April and to reply on his behalf.

The role of the Lieutenant Governor in External Relations can be split into two areas:-

Domestic Support

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor provides support to the Chief Minister's Office and the Bailiff's Chambers when senior representatives of foreign countries visit Jersey. For example an ambassador or senior national representative might be met, hosted overnight, and provided with a cultural programme organised by Government House. Such a programme would be integrated with the political briefings arranged by the Chief Minister's Office. Where the dignitary is accompanied by his wife the Lieutenant Governor's wife may host a separate programme, often supported by the Bailiff's wife, Chief Minister's wife and the Honorary Consul's wife. The coordination of visits to the Island is shared; political visits (the majority) are led by the Chief Minister's Office, civic visits by the Bailiff's Chambers and Royal visits by the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

The Crown and the UK

The Lieutenant Governor is the personal representative of Her Majesty The Queen and her impartial adviser, he therefore has links with the Palace. He also deals with certain Crown appointments and deals with the Lord Chancellor and the Secretary of State for Justice in this regard.

Responsibility for relations with the UK rest with the States however the Lieutenant Governor has a supporting role and acts as the point of contact between the Island's authorities and the UK Government when required. The Lieutenant Governor's office has routine contact with the Crown Dependencies team in the Ministry of Justice. Similarly there are regular contacts with the Treasury over specific issues. Dialogue may take place with other UK ministers as and when appropriate. The role of the Lieutenant Governor's office is to facilitate mutual understanding where that may be helpful. Ministers visiting from the UK may be hosted by Government House in a similar way to ambassadors. The Lieutenant Governor has specific responsibilities in relation to immigration, deportation, naturalisation and the issue of passports. The Office of the Lieutenant Governor deals with the appropriate UK agencies and departments over these issues.

