

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty
The Loyal and Dutiful Address
of the Assembly of the States of Jersey

Your Majesty,

We, **Your Majesty's** loyal subjects, bid the warmest of welcomes on behalf of the people of Jersey to **Your Majesty** and to **Her Majesty the Queen** in your first visit to the Island following your accession to the throne.

We are deeply appreciative that, in the midst of many Royal duties, you have agreed to honour us by your visit and by attending this special sitting of the States Assembly.

It is not often the States, or indeed Members of the Royal Court, gather outside of their respective chambers but on this occasion it is fitting for us to be gathered together in a historic and significant place, the Royal Square, the old marketplace renamed in 1751 following the erection of the statue of King George II. This square has played a central part in island life for the last eight hundred years.

As **Your Majesty** will know, it was here your Royal predecessor King Charles II was proclaimed King, a full eleven years before he was so recognised in his other realms. It was in this place that the Battle of Jersey reached its conclusion in 1781 preserving Jersey as a dependency of the Crown. Here too a predecessor Bailiff gladly proclaimed our freedom when the forces of your Royal Grandfather King George VI liberated the island from enemy occupation at the end of the second world war. In 1952 we proclaimed the accession to the throne of Your Late Mother Queen Elizabeth II, much loved and admired by the people of this Island, and here that in 2022 I had the honour of proclaiming **Your Majesty's** accession to the throne.

Your Majesty has visited us in Jersey a number of times before firstly as a student and then to celebrate important occasions and of course we fondly remember when **Your Majesties** visited us in 2012 for the Diamond Jubilee.

In 1204 our ancestors pledged their loyalty to King John, whom they continued to regard as the lawful Duke of Normandy and were rewarded with privileges and liberties which endure to this day and have been renewed in successive Royal Charters. The seedlings of our special constitutional identity were planted, and they have been nurtured down the centuries by Royal protection and by the loyalty, resilience and independence of spirit of the Jersey people. Our relationship, with the United Kingdom, though important to us, lies in its

constitutional essence, only through the person of the Sovereign. We value that history and our traditions, one of which will shortly take place in the ceremonial sitting of the Royal Court, but we also embrace the new, as we grow and develop as a community reaching out into the wider world by our active participation - amongst other things - in the Commonwealth, Overseas Aid and playing our part in conservation and combatting climate change.

The loyalty of Islanders towards the Crown has remained constant and strong. For the people of Jersey, **Your Majesty** is not only a symbol of order and stability but also an admirable exemplar of a progressive and thoughtful leader. **Your Majesty's** continued patronage of the National Trust for Jersey and the Royal Jersey Agricultural and Horticultural Society demonstrates your support for island institutions which encourage community engagement and participation in heritage.

We are delighted also to have the opportunity to pay tribute to **Her Majesty the Queen** whose hard work, constancy and support of **Your Majesty** is respected and admired by Jersey people.

Members of the States and all here rejoice in this opportunity of expressing the deep affection, loyalty and respect towards **Your Majesty and Your Majesty's Royal House**.

In the traditional words that reach back into our history and recognise **Your Majesty's** unique position in the hearts of Islanders and in our history as our Sovereign and Duke:

Vive Le Roi, Notre Duc! Vive La Reine! God Save the King!

15th July 2024

Bailiff of Jersey
