

# Climate Emergency JSY

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## Appointment for the Members of the Independent Climate Council

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Thank you for your interest in the position of Member of the Climate Council.

This information pack contains the following information:

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## 1. Background information

### Establishment of an independent Climate Council

On 2 May 2019, 40 elected members of the States Assembly voted to declare, ‘that there exists a climate emergency likely to have profound effects in Jersey’.

The [Carbon Neutral Roadmap](#) (CNR), was agreed by the States Assembly on 29 April 2022. The CNR outlines a range of policies to start Jersey’s journey to net zero. Policies focus on four main categories, including transport, heating, cooking and cooling, other on and off-island emissions and enabling policies. The CNR focuses on the steps that need to be taken during the first Delivery Plan period 2022 to 2025.

The CNR has been based on ideas gathered from islanders, along with detailed technical studies and the recommendations of the Citizens Assembly on Climate Change, which selected 45 demographically representative people in Jersey to come together and discuss these issues in 2021. It's underpinned by an [evidence base](#) of reports.

The CNR recognises that the Government of Jersey and the States Assembly will need to continually update delivery plans to take account of what is working – in the Island and elsewhere – and what we need to do more, and less, of to reduce our carbon emissions in line with our commitments.

In the debate to approve the Carbon Neutral Roadmap, the States Assembly approved an amendment from the Environment, Housing and Infrastructure (EHI) Scrutiny Panel calling for the establishment of “an independent, scientific Climate Council for Jersey with a composition, scope and focus that is proportionate to Jersey’s size”. The Minister for the Environment subsequently brought forward the proposition for the Establishment of a Climate Council, which was unanimously approved (as amended) in March 2023 ([P.117/2022](#))

### Governance and reporting on the Carbon Neutral Roadmap

Responsibility for the governance of the CNR and delivery of its policies rests with officers within the Government of Jersey’s operational departments and is overseen by the Carbon Neutral Roadmap Programme Board and Sponsoring Group.



The Key Performance Indicator for the success of the CNR is the [Island's annual greenhouse gas inventory](#). As part of the UK National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory Programme, a greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory for Jersey is produced annually. This independently calculated and verified inventory provides estimates for historical emissions of GHGs from 1990. This dataset is publicly available via [open data](#).

The UK's ratification of the Paris Agreement was extended to the island in 2022. Jersey is therefore a signatory, through the UK, to the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Jersey has committed to an ambitious [greenhouse gas emissions](#) reduction trajectory. This means reducing emissions by 68% by 2030, 78% by 2035, measured against a 1990 baseline, and reaching net zero by 2050.

The Island's progress in meeting its carbon emissions reduction targets is reported annually via the [greenhouse gas emissions inventory](#), as well as the most recent [UK biennial transparency report to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change 2024](#).

In 2022, Jersey emitted 350,532 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq. This is roughly 3.4 tCO<sub>2</sub>eq per person. Between 1990 and 2022, emissions in Jersey have decreased by 47%. Emissions from the energy supply sector reduced significantly when the 90MW Normandie 2 supply cable was installed in 2000 reducing the need for the diesel engine power plant.

Although not part of the Island's international reporting, consideration is also given to [Jersey's indirect greenhouse gas emissions](#).

## The Bailiwick of Jersey

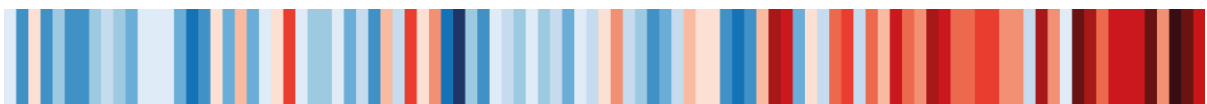
Jersey is the largest of the Channel Islands with a population of 103,000 and an area of 45 sq. miles (118.2 sq. km). Jersey is situated 14 miles off the north-west coast of France and 85 miles from the English coast. English is the main language spoken. Other languages include Portuguese, Polish and Jèrriais (the Jersey language).

The Island of Jersey is divided into 12 administrative districts called parishes. All have access to the coast and share a name with their parish churches. Each parish has an elected Connétable (Constable) to look after parishioners, manage the local amenities and represent the parish in the States Assembly, see below.

## Government and Legal System

Jersey is a self-governing Crown Dependency and is not part of the United Kingdom, nor represented in the UK Parliament. The King is the Head of State for Jersey. The Lieutenant Governor is His Majesty's personal representative.

Jersey has its own fiscal, administrative and legal systems. The Island has a Royal Court, which is equal to the UK's Crown Court for criminal matters and UK's High Court for civil matters.



The [States Assembly](#), or the States of Jersey as it is also known, is the parliament, which acts as the legislature of the Island with members elected by the public. The States Assembly is presided over by the Bailiff and includes 49 elected voting members: 37 Deputies and the 12 Connétables.

The functions of the States Assembly include:

- making and amending laws and regulations;
- approving the amount of public money to be spent by the Government every year;
- approving the amount of tax to be raised.

The Council of Ministers is the Executive and is made up of the Chief Minister and 11 other ministers who are all appointed individually by the States Assembly. The responsibilities of the Council are set out in law and include the following:

- co-ordinating policies and administration;
- discussing and agreeing policy affecting 2 or more ministers;
- prioritising executive and legislative proposals.

Elections are held every four years and one of the first tasks of a new Council of Ministers is to draw up a strategic plan for Jersey within 4 months of its appointment. The plan outlines the Council's high-level aims and objectives. Government planning and reporting is based on three main documents: The [Common Strategic Policy \(CSP\)](#), [Budget \(previously Government Plan\)](#), and the [Annual Report and Accounts](#). Government planning and reporting is also supported by:

- Ministerial Plans: provide a clear focus for action to aid the States Assembly in holding each minister to account for their delivery.
- Departmental Business Plans to support the above.

Once the CSP and the Budget are approved by the States Assembly, it is the role of the Council to make sure the plans are properly and efficiently delivered. The current CSP focuses on thirteen priorities to benefit households, families, patients and care providers, tenants and businesses. These are:

- Extend nursery and childcare provision
- Provide a nutritious school meal for every child in all States primary schools
- Increase the provision of lifelong learning and skills development
- Start building a new hospital at Overdale
- Reduce GP fees
- Implement the recommendations from the Violence Against Women and Girls Taskforce report
- Transition to a living wage
- Provide more affordable homes for Islanders and more confidence for the rented sector
- Keep Government fees, duties, and charges as low as possible to help Islanders with the cost of living in 2025
- Reduce red tape, enhance opportunities for business and strengthen Jersey's international reputation



- Deliver a plan to revitalise Town
- Reform the planning service to enable sustainable development in Jersey
- Meet the Island’s commitments to address the climate emergency through the implementation of the Carbon Neutral Roadmap.

Parliamentary Scrutiny acts as an important inspection system of the Government. It is the way that the States Assembly holds ministers to account for their decisions and actions. There are five scrutiny panels which are made up of States members who are not ministers or assistant ministers. These panels carry out detailed investigations into ministers’ work and can call for papers and witnesses relevant to their investigations. This helps improve government policies, legislation and public services. If changes are suggested, Scrutiny helps to make sure that the changes are fit for purpose and justified.

The Government of Jersey (GoJ), the Council of Ministers, is supported by 9 departments of Jersey's public service. Each department supports ministers to deliver on their policy objectives and deliver services for Islanders. More information on each department can be found [here](#).



## 2. The role of the Climate Council

The role of the Climate Council is to report on Jersey's progress on both reducing GHG emissions and on the Government of Jersey's delivery of the CNR climate change policy initiatives at the end of each term of government (every four years), to provide accountability and continuity of ambition across successive States Assemblies. At the end of every four-year delivery phase for the term of the CNR, the Climate Council is required to present its autonomously prepared report to the States Assembly. The Council's report will evaluate the Government of Jersey's progress on reducing carbon emissions and the climate change policy initiatives being delivered as part of the CNR.

In preparing the four-yearly report, the work of the Climate Council may include:

- Providing independent science-based advice on setting and meeting carbon budgets and preparing for climate change.
- Monitoring progress in reducing emissions and achieving carbon budgets and targets and recommending actions to keep Jersey on track.
- Conducting independent analysis into climate change science, economics and policy where such information cannot be transposed from other peer reviewed scientific research or analysis.
- Engaging with a wide range of organisations and individuals to share evidence and analysis.

The Council will also consider and advise on Carbon Sequestration initiatives that would be applicable to Jersey.

The first four-yearly report from the Climate Council will need to be presented to the States Assembly by the end of Q1 2026.

### Size and composition of the Council

The Independent Climate Council will consist of up to five members, including a Chair to be chosen by the membership. At least one member must be a full-time Jersey resident.

### Secretariat support

The Council will be supported by a secretariat function provided by the States Greffe, the Non-executive and legal Department which provides all administrative support for the States Assembly. The secretariat will support the Council in organising meetings, working with the Cabinet Office Environment and Climate team to collate evidence required for the Council's analysis and support with preparing its report.



### 3. Person specification

Members of the Climate Council will be tasked with assessing the implementation of the agreed Carbon Neutral Roadmap, progress towards Jersey's emissions reduction targets and the provision of advice regarding how best the Island should apply its resources to achieve its ambitions. In the course of this undertaking, the Council may not depart from the accepted scientific basis for climate change as a consequence of human activity, nor the necessity of science-led emissions reduction measures to limit global warming, in accordance with the Paris Agreement.

Appointed Climate Council Members will be responsible for:

- Participating in all meetings of the Climate Council (online and in-person)
- Bringing their subject-matter expertise to consideration of the evidence examined by the Panel
- Working with other Council Members to compile the report on Jersey's progress in reducing GHG emissions and implementing the CNR
- Developing recommendations for the Government of Jersey in taking forward the CNR and progress towards emissions reduction targets
- Participating, as required by the Chair, in communicating the Council's findings and final report

Members should ideally possess the following skills, experience and knowledge:

#### Essential

- Undergraduate degree or equivalent experience (five+ years) in a subject relevant to one or more of the following fields: energy; economics; climate technology; income inequality and just transition issues; carbon sequestration; climate science and/or policy
- Able to demonstrate strong research/report writing and analytical skills and academic rigour
- Decision making – ability to examine and review complex information and make informed decisions drawing on a wide range of sources
- Performance and quality assurance – experience of overseeing or reviewing the quality of an organisation's services or performance
- Challenge and influencing – ability to challenge constructively and influence decisions within the Council or key stakeholders
- Communication and engagement– ability to communicate effectively and engage with partners and key stakeholders
- Commitment as a public office-holder to discharging their role in accordance with the [Seven Principles of Public Life](#) (also known as the Nolan Principles): selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership
- Commitment to work within the agreed remit of the Council.



## Desirable

- A postgraduate qualification or equivalent experience (10+ years) in a subject relevant to one or more of the following fields: energy; economics; climate technology; income inequality and just transition issues; carbon sequestration; climate science and/or policy
- Hold membership with a relevant accredited professional body (ideally at Fellowship level or equivalent)
- Prior experience and recognition of the challenges facing a smaller jurisdiction.
- A good understanding of the operation of government and/or public bodies.
- Demonstrable expertise at understanding how complex political landscapes operate.
- An understanding of climate change policy and its delivery, in Jersey or elsewhere.
- Prior experience of assessing the efficacy of emissions reduction measures as part of an independent body

## Disqualifications for appointment

An individual **cannot** be appointed if they, during the period of five years preceding their appointment, has been:

- a States' employee
- a member of the States Assembly
- a lay or co-opted member of any of the States Assembly bodies permitted to lodge a proposition under [Standing Order 19](#)

Or, has at any time previously been:

- the holder of an office listed in Schedule 1 of the [Employment of States of Jersey Employees \(Jersey\) Law 2005](#).





## 4. Appointment of the Climate Council's Chair

At the orientation meeting, the appointed Climate Council Members will select a Chair. This process will be overseen by the [Jersey Appointments Commission \(JAC\)](#).

A prospective Chair will need to have the following qualities and responsibilities:

- Providing excellent vision and leadership, ensuring the Council's independence at all times.
- Chairing meetings and determining procedures for the Council's operation.
- Fulfilling the Council's functions as set out in P.117/2022 (as amended), including presenting advice and the Council's report to the States Assembly.
- Representing the Council externally and developing effective working relationships with key experts, including academics, industry and relevant intergovernmental institutions.
- Attending all Council meetings and maintaining sufficient flexibility to respond to additional ad hoc duties. This will involve a maximum additional time commitment of five days.

A prospective Chair will ideally be able to demonstrate:

- A track record of board membership / leadership, achieving results and providing strategic vision to lead an organisation at regional, national or international level.
- Ability to ensure that an organisation's financial dealings are prudently and systematically accounted for, audited and publicly available.
- An exceptional ability to communicate and build relationships at all levels alongside strong interpersonal skills, including the ability to negotiate, persuade and influence and to communicate effectively the importance of the net zero transition and be able to challenge material misrepresentation of facts across a wide range of audiences.
- The capability to provide independent and pragmatic advice to Ministers and elected representatives
- A track record of dealing with senior representatives from academic, NGO or business institutions, local or national Government officials, and the media
- Exemplary ability to process and interpret complex information; highly developed and insightful reasoning skills and judgment, and the ability to provide intellectual leadership.
- Demonstrate a creative and proactive approach to problem solving with a high level of professionalism.
- Strong knowledge of the full range of matters falling within the Council's remit.



## 5. Remuneration and time commitment

### Time Commitment

Climate Council members will be appointed for the equivalent of six days to encompass an initial orientation and planning day, with five days for the preparation of the Council's report. Any additional days of Members' time that might be requested over and above this period to prepare the Council's report, will need to be formally approved in advance by the Cabinet Office, as the budget holder for the Climate Council.

Council meetings may take place for periods of less than one full day, spread across the contractual period. The additional duties of the Chair may necessitate a further paid time commitment not exceeding five days.

Travel, accommodation and out of pocket expenses will be paid in accordance with Government of Jersey policies as set out in the [Public Finances Manual](#). The time commitment for these roles does not include travel time to attend on-Island meetings.

The majority of the Council's work will take place in a focused period during Q4 of 2025 and Q1 2026.

Climate Council members will be appointed for a single term of office on a fixed term basis.

### Remuneration

The day rate for all Council Members, including the Chair, is £500.

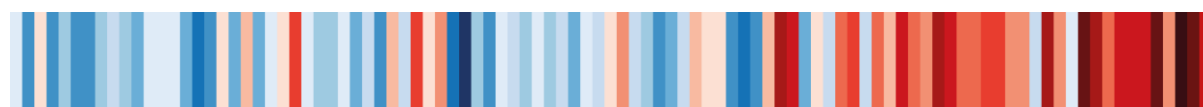
### Meeting dates

The recruitment and appointment of Climate Council members will take place in Q2 and Q3 2025. The Council's orientation meeting will be held in Q3 2025 so members can appoint a Chair, receive introductory briefings, confirm Terms of Reference and agree their programme of work, including identification and requests for evidence.

Timeline:

Date	Activity
Q2-3 2025	Recruitment and appointment of Council members
Q3 2025	Orientation and planning day to be held in Jersey: appointment of Chair; initial briefings; confirmation of work programme and schedule
Q4 2025	Council convenes to conduct review, draft and finalise report
Q1 2026	Council to present final report to the States Assembly

Dates for the orientation day and council meetings will be set once members have been appointed, and diaries can be synchronised.



Following publication of their first report in Q1 2026, the Climate Council will then not reconvene until Q3 2029 (following any additional recruitment required), with their second report to be presented to the States Assembly by the end of Q1 2030.

## Travel

The majority of the Council's business will be conducted online. However, these roles will require some travel to Jersey, where candidates are not already resident in the Island.

Council Members will convene in Jersey on two or three occasions during their review process. The majority of any travel will occur during Q4 2025. However, the Council's orientation and planning day will be held in Jersey during Q3 2025.



## 6. Application process

Given the profile and importance of the Climate Council, the appointment process is to be overseen by the [Jersey Appointments Commission](#).

To apply, please send your CV and supporting letter to: [resourcing@gov.je](mailto:resourcing@gov.je). Submitted files must be in either a .pdf or .docx file format.

Prior to applying, please ensure that you are not disqualified from being appointed. Information about restrictions is set out in the 'disqualifications for appointment' section above.

Applications must be received by 23:59pm on Wednesday 14 May 2025.

It is anticipated that interviews will take place during the weeks commencing 7 and 14 July 2025 in Jersey or online via Microsoft Teams.

To the best of your knowledge, please advise of any significant periods of time, or specific dates when you will be unavailable in the next three months. For further information or to arrange an informal discussion about the role please contact Lisette Jones, Head of Environment and Climate via: [L.jones2@gov.je](mailto:L.jones2@gov.je).

### Supporting Letter

Your supporting letter is your opportunity to demonstrate how you meet each of the criteria set out in the person specification. How you choose to present the information is up to you, however you should aim to provide specific and detailed examples that demonstrate how your knowledge and experience matches the criteria. If you are interested in the role of Chair, please include an expression of interest in your letter.

You can draw on examples from your working life, through your participation with a private, public, voluntary or community organisation, and/or other areas of your personal life. You should consider such issues as where your skills knowledge and experience were gained, the length and breadth of your experience and most importantly how you applied your skills, knowledge and experience in practical situations. It will be beneficial to the selection panel if you can be clear which particular evidence you provide relates to which criteria.

If you have any business or personal interests that might be relevant to the work of the Climate Council and which could lead to actual, or perceived, conflicts of interest if you were to be appointed, please give details in your supporting letter.

### Appointment process

A Recruitment Panel, comprising a Member of Jersey Appointments Commission (as Chair), senior civil servants and an independent representative will oversee the shortlisting and appointment of Council members.

Shortlisted candidates will be required to prepare a task ahead of interview to demonstrate their expertise and suitability.



In appointing the members of the Climate Council, the Recruitment Panel will seek to secure a breadth and balance of expertise and experience between successful candidates. All roles are generic and will not involve separate pools for candidates with specific fields of expertise.

The Recruitment Panel will also seek expressions of interest from candidates for the role of Climate Council Chair. The Recruitment Panel will test those applicants' skills, capability, and suitability as a Chair as part of the Member interviews to inform final selection decisions.

Following the recruitment process, the Minister for the Environment and the Chair of the Environment, Housing and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel will make a joint decision to approve the Recruitment Panel's recommended appointments, in accordance with P.117/2022.

Climate Council Members will select their Chair from amongst themselves. Jersey Appointments Commission will oversee this process, to ensure transparency, neutrality and efficiency of time.

## Fit and Proper Person Assessment

Prior to appointment you will be expected to demonstrate that you are a fit and proper person to take up this high-profile position. This will be assessed throughout the appointment process and will include gathering appropriate information and evidence to verify fitness. This will include:

- Verification and evaluation of information you provide in relation to the skills and knowledge required by the role from application documentation and at interview
- If successful, obtaining references and an appropriate criminal record disclosure
- Confirmation that your conduct to date has been compatible with the role
- Confirmation that you have no conflicts of interest
- Confirmation that you are not disqualified from being appointed
- By virtue of submitting an application you are declaring that the information you provide is to the best of your knowledge and belief, true and complete.



## 7. Appendix 1 – Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is the rationale for convening the Climate Council once every four years?**

The Climate Council will be convened towards the end of each term of Government in Jersey to coincide with the parallel conclusion of each four-year delivery period for the CNR. The first period of the CNR ran from 2022 to 2025. The Climate Council will convene in 2025 ahead of Jersey's 2026 General election. An amendment calling for the Council to convene every two years was rejected by the States Assembly during the debate of [P.117/2022](#) in March 2023.

### **Are there any areas outside the Climate Council's remit?**

Consideration of the appropriateness of Jersey's agreed emission reduction targets, under the UK's extension of the Paris Agreement to the Island; the declaration of a Climate Emergency by the States Assembly in 2019; or the adoption of a net zero transition plan for the Island (the Carbon Neutral Roadmap), does not fall with the Climate Council's remit. Furthermore, the Council may not depart from the accepted scientific basis for climate change as a consequence of human activity, nor the necessity of science-led emissions reduction measures to limit global warming, in accordance with the Paris Agreement.

The Council is tasked with assessing the implementation of the agreed CNR, progress towards Jersey's emissions reduction targets and the provision of advice regarding how best the Island should apply its resources to achieve its ambitions.

### **Why is the position of Chair of the Climate Council not being advertised separately?**

The requirement for Members of the Climate Council to select a Chair from amongst themselves, originates from the Scrutiny Panel amendment to the Carbon Neutral Roadmap, which first proposed the creation of a Climate Council: [P.74/2022\(Amd\)](#). This principle was maintained in the Environment Minister's proposition to establish the Council (P.117/2022) and approved by the States Assembly. Planning for the recruitment of the Council has identified that it will be appropriate for Jersey Appointments Commission to oversee the process to appoint the Chair to ensure this is fair, transparent and robust.

### **What languages will the Climate Council's proceedings be held in?**

The Climate Council will be conducted in English.



## 8. Appendix 2 - Supporting resources

[Facts about Jersey](#)

[States Assembly | P-117-2022](#)

[States Assembly | P-117-2022\(Amd\)](#)

[Carbon Neutral Roadmap](#)

[Carbon Neutral Roadmap progress report August 2024](#)

[Greenhouse gas emissions](#)

[Greenhouse gas emissions - Datasets - Government of Jersey Open Data](#)

[Guide to the Jersey Greenhouse Gas Inventory \(May 2024\)](#)

[Considering the Channel Islands' indirect GHG emissions](#)

[Climate statistics](#)

[Energy Trends](#)

[UK biennial transparency report to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change 2024 - GOV.UK](#)

