

How do you become a Deputy?



Getting elected

Deputies are elected every four years unless a *by-election* is needed. This is when only one new *Deputy* needs to be found to fill a seat, for example if a member of the *States* resigns.

Firstly, if you want to be a Deputy, you must:

- Be 20 years old or over
- Live in Guernsey

 (for at least two years before the election)
- Have a clean criminal record
 (for the last five years)

You then have to decide which *Electoral District* you want to represent. This is usually where you live but it doesn't have to be.

There are seven Electoral Districts. These are:

- St. Peter Port South (including Herm and Jethou)
- St. Peter Port North
- St. Sampson
- Vale
- Castel
- West

(including St.Saviour, St. Pierre du Bois, Torteval and Forest)

• South East (including St. Martin and St. Andrew)

Next, you must find two people from your Electoral District to nominate you. These are people who think you would make a good Deputy.





> You will then fill out a nomination form and send it to the *Bailiff*. You will now be a candidate, hoping to be elected.

Now, the election campaign can begin. This is when you try to convince the people in your Electoral District that you would be a good *Deputy* and that you would represent them fairly in the *States* of Guernsey.

To do this, you might try some of these:

Prepare a manifesto: This could be a booklet or even just a sheet of paper in which the candidate explains what they think about a range of topics; for example: schools, hospitals or parks.

Attend a hustings: These are meetings where candidates make short speeches and answer questions from the electors.

Call door to door: Knocking on doors to speak to the electors face-to-face at their homes. This gives the electors the chance to discuss directly with the candidates the issues which affect them.

Place posters around the electoral district.

Place advertisements in the local newspaper.

Build a profile: This may include creating a website, using social media (Twitter/Facebook/other) and volunteering for high profile roles in the community, e.g. a local charity.

At the end of the election campaign, the electors vote for the candidates they would like to be their *Deputies*. There are five or six *Deputies* for each *Electoral District*.

The new *Deputies* begin their duties on 1st May and hold their position for four years.

Make your own manifesto.

In order to become a *Deputy* you would have to campaign, talk to local residents and put forward a manifesto which talks about you, your vision and values for the island, and the issues you feel strongly about.

In a poster format, create your own manifesto with images and text. You can find current Deputies' manifestos by following the link: www.gov.gg/deputies.

What would be on your manifesto?

Things to consider:

- What you feel passionately about on the island
- What island issues you would want to include on your manifesto
- Why you think others should vote for you

All terms in italics are explained within the Glossary booklet