

What does a Deputy do?

The primary duty of a *Deputy* is to act in the best interests of the people of Guernsey. They do this in several ways.

States meetings

Deputies attend *States'* meetings which are held approximately every three weeks, except during summer recess, in the *Royal Court* Chamber. Meetings usually last for two or three days depending on how much there is to discuss.

Before each meeting, the *Deputies* read the *Billet d'État* which sets out the topics to be discussed. This can include:

- **New laws**
- **Choosing *Deputies* to sit on a certain Committee**
- **Taxes**
- **Policy changes suggested by Committees and Presidents**
- **Spending large sums of money on major projects such as hospital extensions**

Deputies make up the various Committees in order to carry out the will of the *States* and to report back to them on how their Committee is doing.

Each Committee is made up of five or six *Deputies*, headed up by the *President*.

The *Deputies* are responsible for looking after the budget given to their Committee and making sure it is spent well.

Constituency work

From time to time, islanders will ask a *Deputy* for assistance. This might be because they need help or advice in their dealings with one of the *States'* Committees. If necessary the *Deputy* will take on their case and speak to the Committee on their behalf.

Representing Guernsey around the world

From time to time, the *President* of the Policy & Resources Committee, who holds the senior-most political office in Guernsey, or another member of the Policy & Resources Committee with specific responsibility for external relations, or sometimes other *Deputies* in other capacities, will represent the Island at meetings such as the *Commonwealth* or the British-Irish Council.

A typical day in the life of a Deputy



Morning

- Reply to emails and letters
- Attend Committee meeting
- Read the policy letters in preparation for the next States meeting

Afternoon

- Meet with members of the public to discuss various issues
- Attend an interview with the local media about the latest decision made by their Committee
- Attend Committee meeting

Evening

- Prepare notes for the next States meeting to explain to the rest of the Deputies what their Committee has been doing recently
- Return calls from constituents