Heidi Soulsby





2020 Manifesto

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve as a People's Deputy since 2012 and I have done so with drive and passion. A Chartered Accountant by profession, I have held board level roles in the international finance sector and helped to establish several successful businesses. Throughout my working life I have succeeded through analytical thinking, continual learning, developing trusting relationships and helping others do their best.

On the following pages you can find information about me, what I have done in office and what I would like to see happen in the next States' term.

About Me



After graduating with a BSc(Hons) in Geography from King's College, London University, I trained as a Chartered Accountant in the City of London. It was here that I met my husband Phil, to whom I have now been married for 31 years.

In 1990 I joined KPMG in Guernsey and was a director of their trust company for several years. Following a take-over, I became a director of Kleinwort Benson's Trust Company and headed up its operations department in Guernsey and Jersey. In 2003 I was appointed Chief Operating Officer of Cary Olsen, one of the largest law firms in the Channel Islands.

I sat as a business representative on the States of Guernsey's Lifelong Learning Advisory Committee and was also a member of the training committee of the Guernsey Society of Chartered and Certified Accountants as well as a Director of the Friends of Saumarez Park Playground LBG.

I am currently Vice Chair of the Guernsey Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and was delighted to host members of the British Islands and Mediterranean region in May 2019. I have been a Governor of The Ladies' College for over 5 years and was appointed a Trustee of the Guernsey Sports Commission in 2019.

I have 2 children, Alex and Dominic, both of whom went to St Martin's Primary School and who are now studying at University. Phil, who is also a Chartered Accountant, has worked at board level in the finance and IT sectors, served on the St Martin's Parish Douzaine, and continues to be involved with the Fairtrade Guernsey Steering Group and the GSPCA.

To relax, I like cycling Guernsey's green lanes, gardening and painting, when time allows. I've also run a few charity races, including the Great North Run and the London Marathon and one day would like to cycle across America.

I was delighted to be shortlisted for the 'Woman of the Year' in 'Government, Regulatory and Non-Profit Organisations' at the 2020 CityWealth Powerwoman Awards and was an eventual bronze winner.



What I've Done



In my first term I held the following posts;

- Chair of the Public Accounts Committee
- Member of the Scrutiny Committee
- Member of the Commerce and Employment Department
- Member of the Constitutional Investigation Committee
- Deputy Minister of the Health and Social Services Department.

In my second term I have held the following posts;

- President of the Committee for Health & Social Care
- Member of the Civil Contingencies Authority
- Member of the Brexit Transition Group
- Member of the COVID-19 Recovery Advisory Group

As I promised in my 2016 manifesto, my focus this term has been on the transformation of health and social care. In the last 4 years I have brought stability and financial control to what is the most complex part of the States of Guernsey. In December 2017 the new model of health and care - the Partnership of Purpose - was approved and since then, thanks to the hard work and dedication of the Committee and staff, firm foundations have been set on which to build for the future. Examples of what has been achieved are given below.

- Hospital modernisation programme approved with building to start 2021.
- Opt out organ donation scheme passed.
- Free Under 21 contraception introduced, reducing teenage pregnancies dramatically.
- Free cervical smear testing.
- Free HPV vaccinations.
- Autism hub at Le Vieux Jardin built.
- Beauville key worker housing built.
- New Capacity Law and lasting powers of attorney passed.
- NICE Drugs and Treatments policy letter approved and Orkambi and Symkevi approved for cystic fibrosis.
- Regulation of health and care policy letter approved and work commenced to develop.
- Cannabis rescheduled to enable it to be prescribed for medicinal purposes.
- Licensed commercial cannabis growing regime established and licences granted.

- Health Improvement Commission established.
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessments supporting design of future health and care services introduced.
- Autism and dementia frameworks and carers' strategy launched.
- Four year radiology replacement programme actioned and due to complete at end of 2020.
- Maternity services turned around after 2014
 NMC review to receiving nationally recognised
 Blue SCAPE award.
- PEH parking overhauled and active travel options provided.



The future

The next few months and years are going to be critical for the future of Guernsey. Thanks to the fantastic effort of the whole community, we have been able to move out of lockdown faster than most other jurisdictions in the world. We live a life within the Bailiwick without the restrictions being seen even just a few miles from our shores. However, the consequences of the global pandemic have not gone away.

It is **crucially important that Guernsey is nimble**, both to respond to threats and to grasp opportunities. At the same time, we must work together as a community, as the pandemic has shown we can, to build back better and **focus on what really matters to us.**



This year has shown how we can act decisively and effectively. However, that has only been possible because those at the heart of the Bailiwick's response to the pandemic worked in an **atmosphere of trust and mutual respect**, listened to each other and made evidence-based decisions.

We must build on this **positive way of working** and push aside the
divisiveness and negativity that has

characterised much of this States' term if we truly care about Guernsey's future. We can't afford to have politicians revisiting majority decisions just because they don't like them. It makes for poor, indecisive government and does a disservice to our community. In our consensus system, if the 'Revive and Thrive' recovery plan is to be a success, we must move forward together.

Joint working is at the heart of the new model of health and care -Partnership of Purpose - which became a reality during the pandemic with healthcare providers from the public, private and third sectors coming together to provide such a fantastic response. Firm foundations have been set which we must build on next term with the whole of government working together to address the causes of poor physical and mental health and wellbeing.

A high standard of education, good quality housing and measures to mitigate climate change will all help to improve our health and wellbeing, assist people to maximise their potential and, in turn, help our economy grow. That is why reaching a conclusion on the secondary education model, providing more affordable housing, and helping islanders make their homes more energy efficient, all need to be addressed. It is also why we need to turn Skills Guernsey into a driving force that helps us adapt to the changing workplace.



Working together is also necessary if businesses are to be able to flourish. Improved access to government and digital connectivity are essential, but so is investment in our sea links and tourist offering. Our response to the pandemic has already resulted in international interest being shown by those involved in medical research and we must continue the work we have done to turn such exciting opportunities into reality.



And finally.....



The Policy & Resources Committee will be the key to progress next term. Through its policy role it is the Committee that can make joint working happen politically and in its resources role it can make government work better operationally.

I have a proven track record of working with others to **get the job done** and get it done properly. That is why, if I am reelected, I will seek a place on that

Committee and put all my efforts into ensuring Guernsey really does revive and thrive over the coming years.

Finally, I would like to thank Lois Falla, my proposer, who has been such a source of personal support these last 8 years and Roger Allsopp OBE, my seconder, who has worked alongside me as a non-voting member on the Committee for Health & Social Care this term.

For more information please visit my website, which includes a blog that I have kept going since I was elected in 2012.

heidisoulsby.com

If you have any questions, please email me at;

heidi@heidisoulsby.com





@HeidiSoulsby



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