

To all candidates for election to the States of Deliberation

15 September 2020

Dear candidate,

Guernsey Churches Convention for Candidates

6 pm – 9 pm, Friday 18 September 2020

Venue: Spurgeon Baptist Church, North Clifton, St Peter Port, GY1 1JR

The church is situated conveniently near the centre of town. It is on the main bus routes into and out of town via the Grange, stopping at Elizabeth College.

Parking is also available in the Elizabeth College grounds by kind permission of the College.

You are warmly invited to a Guernsey Churches Convention for Candidates in States of Guernsey Island wide elections 2020.

The purpose of the event is to give candidates an understanding of the Christian Community in Guernsey and to give Christians an understanding of candidates' positions in the Island wide elections.

At the event you will be able to meet with representatives across a number of church ministries that serve the Island community. Many of these are already engaged with the States of Guernsey in meeting its objectives for our Island's well-being.

We will be seeking to understand your position on some key issues that are of particular interest or concern for Christians in Guernsey.

The areas covered will include:

- Faith in the community: The States' understanding of, and engagement with, the Christian church as a force for good in the Islands. Reference will be made to the independent Guernsey faith action audit (Cinnamon Network, 2018). The audit found that over 330 projects, 45,000 beneficiaries, 1850 volunteer roles and £1.1 million of financial value being provided by faith groups in Guernsey in 2017.
Representative: The Dean of Guernsey and other church leaders.
- Ethics (i): Life of the unborn child and well-being of the mother. *Representative: Life for Both.*
- Ethics (ii): End of Life care. *Representative: The Hospice movement.*
- Poverty in the community. *Representative: Guernsey Welfare Service and the Island food banks.*
- Rehabilitation of Ex-Offenders. *Representative: Guernsey Caring for Ex-offenders.*
- Environment and creation care. *Representative: Christians involved in creation care.*
- Education – faith in our schools. *Representative: P.A.C.E. (Practical Assistance in Christian Education).*

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- Concern for our world. *Representative: Volunteers for Island based charitable works for relief of suffering and indigenous development.*
- Meet Guernsey's church leaders. *Informal table to meet ministers / priests / pastors / church leaders.*

Candidates attending will be given a questionnaire to fill in. The responses to the questionnaires will be collated and sent to all church congregations and gatherings in the Island, along with a short report of the evening.

The event is for candidates only. It is not open to members of the public. The media will not be present between 6 pm and 9 pm. The media will be invited to attend at the conclusion of the evening. A press photographer may take an overall picture during the event.

The event will be a 'drop in' session, at a time convenient for yourself.

You are asked to register your attendance and time you anticipate attending by reply to dean@deanery.gg

If you are unable to attend, but would have liked to have done so, you may also send in your apologies. A list of candidate responses will be sent to all churches in an appendix to the report, along with candidate responses to the questionnaire.

We apologise that we have not been able to give more notice of this event.

The number of candidates that declared by 4 September caused us to rethink what had been planned by way of church-based hustings. However, we also believe that this event represents a better way of engagement and communication with the candidates.

We hope you will be able to attend, and look forward to meeting you.

Yours sincerely,



Tim Barker
Dean of Guernsey

John Ogier
Convenor