



## The Government of Sark

### **REFORM LAW (GOOD GOVERNANCE) POLICY DEVELOPMENT TEAM**

COMMITTEE OFFICE, LA CHASSE MARETTE, SARK GY10 1SF  
Telephone: (01481) 832118

28<sup>th</sup> April 2017

## Consultation on the Future Shape of Chief Pleas

Dear Resident

It is nearly 10 years since the fundamental change in how Sark has been governed took place changing from a Feudal system to a fully democratic system of government.

Since 2008 fewer qualified Sark residents have stood at each successive election.

Many of you will have your reasons for standing or not standing. The Sark government wishes to find out what those reasons are. Rather than make assumptions, we are asking you to complete and return the enclosed questionnaire.

The work of government must continue to allow Sark to function properly, no matter how many or how few Conseillers there are in Chief Pleas. In order to have a balanced, sustainable government we need information to propose ways in which Chief Pleas can operate in the foreseeable future.

Currently work done by Conseillers is a mixture of policy and operational work. Workloads can vary hugely throughout the year, from committee to committee, as well as changing with responsibilities each Conseiller is able to undertake.

The work done within Policy Development Teams focuses on topics which are prioritised by Chief Pleas. This enables Conseillers to focus on topics of particular interest and concern, that they want to implement to take Sark forwards. This is in addition to their normal operational work of committees.

The level of administration and other support needed for the work of Government to function efficiently varies too, in line with the Committee work, and is currently being looked at in detail in the Establishment Review.

To assist Chief Pleas in ensuring that the Future Shape of Chief Pleas is the best for Sark for the foreseeable future we need to hear your individual views on what would encourage or discourage you to stand for election in the future.

This questionnaire is only to be completed by individuals, as it is only individuals who may sit in Chief Pleas.

The confidentiality of any responses is paramount. The questionnaire is anonymous; no individual can be identified as the blank envelopes are delivered randomly to all residential addresses in Sark by Guernsey Post. The forms are numbered and also randomised to ensure there has been no duplication. ***If there are more than two individuals in your household who wish to respond, please contact the Committee Office for additional forms, which you may select in private and at random.***

The collated results of this questionnaire will be brought to Midsummer Chief Pleas.

Thank you for taking time to help Sark as it develops the future shape of Chief Pleas.

Yours faithfully

**Reform Law (Good Governance) Policy Development Team**  
**Conseiller Jane Norwich, Hazel Fry, Anthony Ventress and also Mr. Richard Dewe**



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## Consultation on the Future Shape of Chief Pleas

The purpose of this consultation is to ascertain the views of Sark Residents about standing for election to be a Conseiller of Chief Pleas, including what might, if you are eligible, encourage or discourage you from standing. The Good Governance Policy Development Team wants to know your views.

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Analysis of the responses will be supervised by the Senior Administrator and not by any member of Chief Pleas.

Below you are asked a number of questions; please circle the **Yes** or **No** depending on your preference.

Where you are asked to give your view please write clearly.

<b>Q1</b>	<b>Are you eligible to stand for Chief Pleas?</b> <small>(You are eligible to be nominated to stand for Chief Pleas if you have been Ordinarily Resident for two years prior to the closure of the electoral roll <u>and</u> are over 18 years of age on the date of closure of the electoral roll.)</small>	<b>Yes/No</b>
<b>Q2</b>	<b>Are you on the current electoral roll?</b> If not – please state why here -	<b>Yes/No</b>
<b>Q3</b>	<b>Have you ever stood for election to Chief Pleas since 2008?</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>

Q4	Have you ever sat in Chief Pleas in any form? (Conseiller, Deputy, Tenant)	Yes/No
Q5	<p>In the elections since December 2014 what has deterred or excluded you from standing for election to Chief Pleas? Please give your top three reasons. (You may be excluded as you hold another office e.g. Officer of Chief Pleas, Tribunal Member, Constable or other, if so please state).</p> <p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p>	
Q6	<p>What would encourage you to stand in future elections? Please give your top three reasons.</p> <p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p>	
Q7	Are you considering standing in December 2018	Yes/No

Please return your completed questionnaire by  
**noon on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017 to:**

Committee Office,

Chasse Murette,

Sark

GY10 1SF.

Thank you for your time in completing this questionnaire.