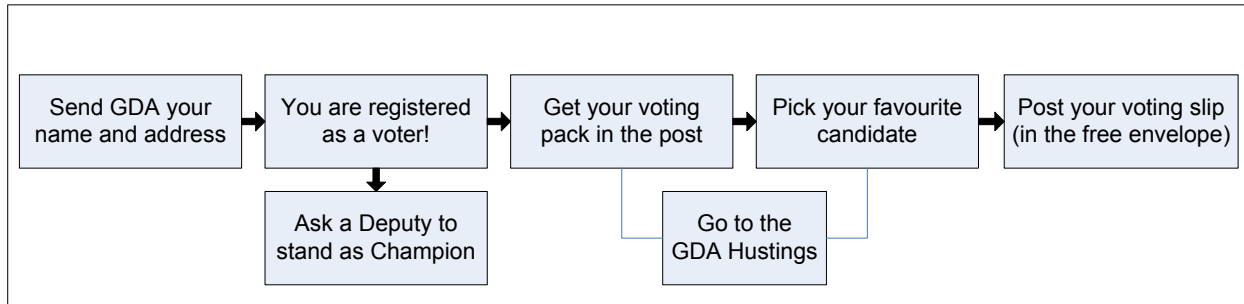


## Election of States' Champion for Disabled People

### Guide for Voters

#### How it works (quick version):



#### 1. Can I vote?

The people encouraged to vote for the States' Champion for Disabled People are:

##### **Disabled people.** In Guernsey:

people with disabilities, or disabled people, include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which, in interaction with various barriers, may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.

**Close family members** of disabled people.

**Staff and volunteers** of a charity (or other voluntary organisation) that supports disabled people and their family members/ carers.

**Professionals** who support disabled people and their family members/ carers.

You **can** vote if:

- You have a family member who usually signs papers for you (a guardian).
- You are in hospital.
- You have lived in Guernsey for less than five years.

You must be **at least 16 years old** on Wednesday 30 May 2012.

## 2. How do I register to vote?

You need to tell the Guernsey Disability Alliance your name and address. You can:

- Email [info@disabilityalliance.org.gg](mailto:info@disabilityalliance.org.gg).
- Phone 07781 467 316.
- Go to the Health Information Exchange at the entrance to the new part of the Princess Elizabeth Hospital. It is open from 10 am to 4 pm, Monday to Friday.

You must do this **by the end of Tuesday 29 May 2012.**

You **do not** have to be a member of the Guernsey Disability Alliance, or any of its member charities.

## 3. How do I ask a Deputy to stand as the Champion?

If a Deputy wants to be the Champion, he or she must:

- Be supported by **2 voters**, who sign a form to say they agree.
- Tell the Royal Court by 5 pm on Tuesday 15 May.
- Give the Royal Court a short description of why they think they are right for the job (this is their “manifesto”).

Any States Deputy or Alderney representative can put his or her name forward to become the States’ Champion for Disabled People.

If you would like a Deputy to stand as the Champion, feel free to call them and ask them if they will do it. They **do not** have to be a Deputy from your parish.

There is a list of all the Deputies, and their contact details, on the States website here: [www.gov.gg/article/4772/States-Members](http://www.gov.gg/article/4772/States-Members).

Or just call Frossard House and ask Reception for the phone number or email address of the Deputy you want to speak to.

#### 4. How do I find out more about my choices?

There are three things you can do to find out more about the people who want to become the Champion for Disabled People. You can:

- Look at information online
- Read the manifestos that we send you
- Go to the GDA Hustings

##### **Look at information online:**

On Wednesday 16 May, at lunch-time, we will put the names of the Deputies online at: [www.disabilityalliance.org.gg](http://www.disabilityalliance.org.gg). We will also announce them in the media.

On Tuesday 22 May, we will put the manifestos up online. We hope these will also be in the Press and on BBC Guernsey.

##### **Read the manifestos that we send you:**

We will put all the Deputies' manifestos into one booklet. We will send this to you.

If you want to get this in large print or easy read, just ask.

##### **Go to the GDA Hustings:**

This is a chance to meet all the Deputies who want to be the Champion in person, to help you make your decision.

The Hustings will be held on Tuesday 29 May at 7 pm. It will be in the Harry Bound Room at Les Cotils. **Note: this date has changed. It was 28 May.**

Each Deputy will have a short 'interview' and will be asked the same set of questions. Once the Deputy has answered those fixed questions anyone in the audience can ask a question until the time runs out.

#### 5. How do I vote?

You will receive a voting pack in the post. This will arrive between Wednesday 23 May and Wednesday 30 May.

**If you applied early but haven't got a voting pack by Tuesday 29 May, please call 07781 467316.**

Your voting pack contains:

- The Deputies' manifestos.
- A voting slip (with the name and photo of each Deputy).
- An envelope (with a stamp and a return address).

When you are ready to vote, you should:

- Find your voting slip.
- Put a cross (X) by the name of the Deputy you want to be Champion.
- Put your voting slip in the envelope.
- Close the envelope.
- Post it.

Your envelope will be addressed to the Deputy Registrar at the Royal Court.

The Deputy Registrar must get your vote before **5 pm on Friday 1 June**. This means you should post it by Thursday 31 May at the very latest.

If your vote arrives after 5pm on Friday 1 June, it will not be counted.

Please note: You can only vote by post. There are no polling stations.

## **6. How will I know who the new Champion is?**

We will announce the name of the people's choice for States Champion for Disabled People at the GDA Monthly Meeting on **Wednesday 6 June**.

This meeting will be at 7pm at the Ron Short Centre at Beau Sejour. Everyone is welcome.

If you can't make it to the meeting, the new Champion will also be announced in the media.

Note: Your choice of Champion has to be sent to the Social Policy Group of the States of Guernsey. They must agree it as this is an official job within the States.

**Important Dates:**

Wednesday 2 May	GDA announces election process for Disabled People's Champion.
Thursday 3 May – Tuesday 29 May	GDA registers disabled people, carers, volunteers and professionals as voters.
Tuesday 15 May	Deputies tell the Royal Court that they want to become the Champion.
Wednesday 16 May	GDA publishes the names of the Deputies who want to become the Champion. See: <a href="http://www.disabilityalliance.org.gg">www.disabilityalliance.org.gg</a>
Wednesday 23 May – Wednesday 30 May	Voters receive their voting pack.
Tuesday 29 May	Last day to register to vote.  GDA Hustings: 7 pm in the Harry Bound Room at the Cotils.
Friday 1 June	Last votes must be received <b>before 5 pm</b> .
Wednesday 6 June	The name of the new Disabled People's Champion is announced.

**Any questions?**

**Please call the GDA on 07781 467 316 or email [info@disabilityalliance.org.gg](mailto:info@disabilityalliance.org.gg)**