

States Champion for Disabled People 2012 - Manifesto

Deputy Lester Queripel

Proposed by John Buchanan
and Richard Cochrane



I've lived with disability all my life. I understand the needs of disabled people. My dear Dad was born with a deformed left leg and foot. He endured awful pain for the whole of his 74 years. He wore 'special shoes' to enable him to walk with what was known as a 'club foot' in those days.

He was a proud man. He was determined to work, and provide for his wife and family. Sometimes, I'd catch him quietly crying in a corner of the house at the end of the day because the painkillers weren't working.

Consequently, I always wanted to work with disabled people to try to improve their 'quality of life'. After 14 months of doing so, I reluctantly resigned, totally disillusioned. Why? Because every time I tried to encourage the creative side of disabled people, e.g. paint a picture or write a poem, I was told "Lester we don't have time for that".

Surely that sort of approach by governments needs to be addressed? If you elect me, I will consider it a privilege to represent disabled people in the States of Guernsey, and I would pursue and progress the Disability Strategy.

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