

MEDIA STATEMENT

FAO News Editor

GDA welcomes Policy and Resource Plan

Chair of the Guernsey Disability Alliance, Robin Le Prevost, said:

“We very much welcome the publication of the first stage of Guernsey’s Policy and Resource Plan.

“The Plan makes clear that Guernsey should be a place where no-one gets left behind and everyone has equal opportunity to achieve their potential, including disabled islanders and carers.

“GDA members have direct and painful experience of exactly what happens when Guernsey doesn’t have a plan. It means vital initiatives like the Disability and Inclusion Strategy are agreed unanimously by the States but then don’t actually happen, even though an initial budget has been agreed.

“The theme of the GDA’s election campaign in April was #MakeltReal so we are relieved to see that Policy and Resources is committed to prioritising, resourcing and implementing the strategies and plans relating to inclusion and equality that were approved by the last States.

“We hope that all the deputies who met GDA members at our Speed Hustings and heard the many personal stories of battling the system in Guernsey will give the Plan their full support when it is debated in November”.

Editor’s Notes:

1. Robin Le Prevost is available for interview and can be reached on 07781 109809 or robin.leprevost@gmail.com.
2. The Disability and Inclusion Strategy was agreed unanimously by the States in November 2013. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-guernsey-25121013>.
3. In November 2015, the States debated a two-year update report on the Strategy which indicated that progress was slow and there wasn’t sufficient realism at the time about the civil service skills and resources required. <http://guernseypress.com/news/2015/10/18/update-on-disability-strategy-is-a-sobering-reality-check/>
4. Under the new system of government, responsibility for practical implementation of the Strategy has passed from Policy Council to the Committee for Employment and Social Security.
5. The projects within the Strategy include Disability Discrimination Legislation, and improving the information available about support and services. For a full list, see: <http://disabilityalliance.org.gg/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Disability-Strategy-projects-from-GDA-Annual-Review.pdf>