



# National Trust Jersey

Patron: HRH Prince of Wales

23<sup>rd</sup> May 2019

Deputy K Lewis  
Infrastructure Minister  
PO Box 412, Beresford House  
Bellozanne Road, St Helier  
Jersey JE4 8UY

Dear Deputy Lewis

## Carbon Neutrality – Electric Cars

In a recent States sitting we were absolutely delighted to hear of your plans to ensure that Jersey's bus fleet will soon be fully electric. In our minds this is a very important and significant step in the right direction, as Jersey seeks to become carbon neutral within the next 10 years, reduce its emissions and improve overall environmental quality.

However, we also noted that there appeared to be a distinct lack of clarity on how your department intends to meet the targets set by Pathway 2050 – An Energy Plan for Jersey as detailed below. As you will be aware emissions rose by 4% between 2015 and 2016, and by 2017 the Island has only achieved 14% of the Plan's set target for electric and hybrid cars.

**Summary The Minister for Planning and Environment working with the Minister for Transport and Technical Services through the Sustainable Transport Policy (and its subsequent revisions) will support a modal shift towards Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs) to meet the following targets: i. 10% of new cars registered at Driver & Vehicle Standards (DVS) are ULEVs by 2020; ii. 30% of new cars registered at DVS are ULEVs by 2030; iii. 60% of new cars registered at DVS are ULEVs by 2040; iv. 90% of new cars registered at DVS are ULEVs by 2050. The nature of the support required, including the establishment of a coordinating body, to achieve these targets will be developed in revisions to the STP.**

**Delivery mechanism Sustainable Transport Policy and its subsequent revisions will monitor the uptake of ULEVs and identify barriers and possible incentives to accelerate take-up as required. Key stakeholders include the Department of Transport and Technical Services and Jersey Electricity in respect of infrastructure requirements. Ongoing work includes States of Jersey trial of electric vehicles.**

## The National Trust for Jersey

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Regrettably we fail to understand how the key actions set for 2018 in the 2017 Summary Plan were ever going to help deliver the required targets, as they were neither substantive nor ambitious in scope or nature. Road safety measures, tractor driving training and Jersey Post acquiring 15 electric vehicles, are all desirable in themselves, but they are never going to help secure an additional 5,000 LEVs by 2020. In addition the Vehicle Emission Duty is being increased, (namely the stick is being applied), but the additional revenue being generated is apparently not being ring-fenced to be used as a "carrot" to encourage additional LEV take up. In many ways this approach appears nonsensical and the results of this policy to date would appear to support this view.

In this respect we were glad to see that Jersey Electricity Company has taken a different stance and offered £150,000, subject to match funding from the States of Jersey, to establish an incentive programme for LEV take-up. Whilst accepting that great care has to be taken to ensure that this does not simply become a subsidy for those wealthy enough to purchase an LEV, we are certain that your Department and the JEC can come up with a proposal to ensure that these funds are directed and targeted appropriately. In addition a small increase in fuel duty could be used in a similar manner to incentivise additional take up. (Subject to these funds being robustly ring-fenced to engender public support).

As you will be aware many countries have now set themselves targets by which to ban new diesel and petrol cars; Costa Rica 2021, Norway 2025, India 2030, Germany 2030, Britain 2040, China 2040 and France 2040. Surely the time has come for Jersey to set itself a target. In so doing everyone will then have the opportunity to adapt and plan accordingly, but also the JEC will be able to put the necessary infrastructure in place and budget accordingly..

In summary we would be very grateful if you could advise us of your plans to ensure that the Island meets the targets set by Pathway 2050 and the date by which Jersey will ban all new diesel and petrol cars from coming into the Island.

Yours sincerely



 Georgina Malet de Carteret  
**President of The National Trust for Jersey**