

Please vote HELEN MILES

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for DEPUTY OF ST BRELADE



Dear Parishioner

I am delighted to be standing as an independent candidate for Deputy of St Brelade.

I first lived in St Brelade when I was two years old, attending Mont Nicolle school before returning in 2000 into a three-generation home, raising my family in the Parish. I have strong parish connections, my sons attended, and my father taught, at Les Quennevais for many years and one of our sons is now a teacher at Mont Nicolle. If elected, I will work tirelessly to improve St Brelade, address the issues that matter to you, and deliver policies which will benefit parishioners.

I spent over 30 years working for Jersey's public service, in law enforcement, criminal justice and policy roles. I have a PhD in Social Sciences, for which I studied Jersey's unique Honorary Police and Parish Hall Enquiry System. I am a passionate supporter of the honorary system.

I now hold various voluntary and paid roles, including Vice-Chair of Autism Jersey and various academic lecturing posts. I have also served as an independent member of the Public Accounts Committee.

I believe I have the knowledge, skills and experience to be an effective voice for St Brelade in the States. I am an independent thinker and, if elected, will work with colleagues across the political spectrum to deliver policies to improve outcomes for our Parish and Island. I will consider issues on their merits and vote according to my principles. As an independent candidate, my accountability will be solely and directly to the parishioners of St Brelade.

Jersey faces several challenges, and we need new States Members with the commitment, leadership and experience to meet them and put Jersey back on track. A fresh approach is required – one that is rooted in an understanding of our Island community and a knowledge of what works best for Jersey.

My full manifesto is set out on my website.

I hope you will consider me for one of your votes on Wednesday 22nd June.

Yours faithfully

Dr Helen Miles



PUTTING JERSEY BACK ON TRACK

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Improving our Parish

I would establish a Parish Improvement Project on the future use of our amenities, to make St Brelade even better.

- Les Quennevais parade and precinct: Business and community groups must be at the heart of the reinvigoration of this key area. The Parish and the States should consider the trial lease of a unit to provide a parish community hub for local services.
- **Communicare**: With further investment and improvement, we can continue to provide a number of vital community services, including for our youth groups, on an enhanced basis.
- Elephant Park: There is an opportunity to maximise the potential of this Parish asset. Sensitive improvement of the landscape and enhancement of the facilities would ensure that it can be enjoyed throughout the year.
- The Railway Walk is a Parish and Island gem and must be regularly and respectfully maintained for public enjoyment.
- St Aubin's village, the dunes and the cliff paths in our Parish should be properly cared for, they are unique areas of beauty of which we are the guardians for future generations.
- The old Les Quennevais school: My current preference is for housing, possibly to include a retirement village and the opportunity for those living in the Parish to downsize if they wish.

The Housing Crisis

I support a range of measures to address the housing crisis:

- A proper supply of affordable housing, in appropriate locations
- Support for paying deposits and shared equity schemes
- Priority for first-time buyers
- A ban on foreign buy-to-let properties, and discouraging properties being bought as holiday homes
- Incentives to ensure that properties are not left empty for long periods
- Voluntary schemes for those who wish to downsize, to assist with the supply of family homes
- Less bureaucracy in creating two and three generation properties to support more independent living in the community
- Requiring properties under a certain value to be sold to first time buyers or those who are downsizing.

Community Safety

We must work together to keep Jersey a safe and special place. Action is needed to ensure that early intervention measures are restored, including:

- Focused youth work within the parish in partnership with the Honorary and States Police
- Re-instating community programmes such as 'Building a Safer Society' and 'Prison! Me! No Way!'
- Supporting an evidence-based approach to tackling women's safety and domestic abuse
- Improved cycle and walking routes that join up the parish, and action to tackle speeding
- Sufficient funding for promoting fire safety among businesses and within the community

Education and lifelong learning

To establish high standards and equality throughout our education system, I would support:

- The 1001 Critical Days strategy which aims to give infants the best start in life
- An improved provision of nursery, primary and secondary education, ensuring equal and appropriate funding for State and privately educated pupils with greater opportunities for students to specialise.
- Delivery of a Higher Education Strategy, building on our existing on-Island excellence
- Greater assistance with higher education living costs. Anyone must be able to attend university if their academic ability allows it, regardless of parental income. Post -18 students are adults and should be treated as such
- Updating funding arrangements for post-graduate study, which are not fit for purpose, to meet our ambition of building a highly educated local work force and reducing immigration.

"Helen was a valued member of my top team. She was the first woman in the Channel Islands to be selected for the Strategic Command Course, the most prestigious leadership programme in British Policing. We face some challenging times ahead, and Helen has the experience to provide clear, strong leadership in difficult circumstances. If elected, she would be an asset for the Parish and the Island."

Mike Bowron QPM, FRSA Chief Police Officer 2011-2017

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Health and Care Services

Islanders must have access to good quality and timely health and social care at every stage of life. We must:

- Continue to invest in staff, services and an affordable health care model that is appropriate for Jersey
- Ensure focused investment in adult and child mental health services, improved programmes and early intervention including support for carers
- Promote healthy lifestyles, reduce smoking, tackle obesity and support those moving away from alcohol and substance misuse.

The Hospital

If the hospital at Overdale goes ahead, we must urgently control the cost which is already above £800 million.

- If Overdale is not confirmed, I support revisiting a twosite plan. This would include outpatient, rehabilitation, and child development services at Overdale, with acute services redeveloped and improved at Gloucester Street
- The two-site option avoids the need for a new road, keeps the Bowls Club and the crematorium, releases the old Les Quennevais school site and provides greater resilience for services. It should be assessed quickly as an alternative option.

Our Coastline

We must protect the areas of outstanding natural beauty in our Parish –

- I will not support any new coastline developments
- Where existing coastline properties are being refurbished, there must be no increase in the scale of development. Portelet stands as a reminder for our Parish of the damage that can be done
- We must halt the creeping "privatisation" of our coastline. It must remain accessible to Islanders and not dominated by developments for the rich.

Population

- Greater use should be made of the 9-month work visa
- The Public Sector should lead the way in providing development pathways for local people, to reduce the dependency on immigration
- The States should have to seek Jersey-based candidates for civil service jobs. Only if a suitable person cannot be appointed or developed into the post within 12 months should an off-Island appointment be considered.

Charities and the voluntary sector

As a founding member of Autism Jersey and current Vice Chair, I am aware of the challenges faced by local charities and will be a strong voice for the voluntary sector in the States.

Environment

- I support sensible moves towards Jersey becoming a greener economy - improved cycle and walking routes, more recycling and better public transport. I would welcome the extension of an Evie electric car share scheme to the parish
- As we move towards carbon neutrality, we must also consider the cost of living and wider financial pressures on Islanders
- We must protect our green fields. I don't support our parish becoming a second town
- I support investment in maintaining our heritage and cultural assets across the Island.

Supporting all Islanders

We must help people to live independently in the community for as long as possible:

- Government services must be accessible through more traditional forms of engagement and services should be provided as locally and close to home as possible
- Opportunities for work, sport and leisure must be equally available to people of different ages and abilities
- Anyone prevented from living or working independently because of a disability must be given the support and care to live a full and inclusive life. This includes provision of personalised budgets
- It is important that we understand that not all disabilities are visible.



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Public Finances

- The recent increases in spending and debt are unsustainable. Spending must be focused on the priorities of taxpayers not "nice to have" projects.
- I do not support taking on any further debt. We must re-pay the Covid debt quickly and re-establish the culture of prudence and saving.
- The Government already collects enough tax from the population. It must use that money more wisely.

Economy

- I support Jersey's existing economic strengths finance, tourism and agriculture, and will encourage appropriate diversification, particularly towards the digital sector and the creative industries
- The service provided by Revenue Jersey to businesses must improve quickly and significantly it is currently letting too many Islanders down
- To address hospitality and tourism staff shortages, we should enable local families to let bedrooms to seasonal workers without being taxed on the income

Machinery of Government

- I support bringing back the Senators in time for the next election, retaining the Bailiff as President of the States and keeping the Connétables in the States
- The "One Gov" re-organisation has been an expensive, bureaucratic and ineffective exercise. We should avoid making the same mistake again
- I will focus on ensuring that the Government's "one front door" is open and accessible for all Islanders, all the time
- A return to "One Department, One Minister" is essential to restore proper democratic accountability across the public sector.

About Helen Miles (née Sykes)

Family: Married to Richard with grown up sons

Education: Mont Nicolle, St Lawrence, St Helier Girls, Hautlieu School, Universite de Rennes II, Open University and University of Wales, Swansea.

Career: Investigative Officer – Customs and Immigration; Research and Information Manager – Probation and After Care Service; Director of Criminal Justice – States of Jersey Police; Policy Director – Government of Jersey.

Current: Vice-Chair of Autism Jersey; Visiting Lecturer – Institute of Law, University College Jersey and University of Plymouth.

Former member of the Public Accounts Committee and of the Legal Aid Guidelines Advisory Committee.

Hobbies and Interests: Charity Treks, Member of the Optimists Battle of Flowers Club, voluntary work, singing, walking, dancing.

CONTACT DETAILS

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I would like to extend special thanks to my nominees and supporters :

Proposer: Mrs Enid Quenault.

Seconders: Corrado Anderson, Anthony Bellows, Lesley Bratch, Brendan Flaxman, Tracy Kelly, Janet Marshall, Rebecca Pirouet, Joy Thomson, Nicholas Watkins.



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