

Jersey Ramsar Management Authority

Terms of Reference

1.0 Background.

Jersey has four areas of our coastal waters and reefs designated under the Ramsar Convention after approval by the States of Jersey. The south-east coast or Violet Reef was designated in 2000 and the offshore reefs of Les Miniquiers, Les Ecréhous, the Dirouilles and the Pierres de Lecq were designated in 2005. The Ramsar Convention provides a framework for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources. The Convention requires management plans for each site to be developed by the stakeholders. The Management Plan primarily identifies the objectives for the site and sets out the management measures required. A Management Authority needs to be established to implement the process.

2.0 Description of the Management Authority

The group is known as the Jersey Ramsar Management Authority (hereafter referred to as 'the Authority'.)

The membership shall:

- (i) Include a broad range of representative interests to provide a balance of viewpoints and expertise to enable informed debate;
- (ii) Bring a range of experience to the Authority in matters relating to conservation, use and management of Jersey's marine environment, and in particular the Ramsar sites; and
- (iii) Remain manageable in size in order to ensure that the Authority may function effectively.

Proposals from likely interested parties wishing to join the Authority should be made to the secretariat prior to a meeting and will be subject to agreement by consensus from the members of the Authority. Interested parties may also choose to be copied into the correspondence of the Authority, rather than becoming attending members. Substitutes are allowed on the Authority. To ensure that business is progressed effectively at meetings, members should be aware that any substitute that they appoint should be authorised to speak with authority on their behalf and have the ability to take decisions on issues under consideration.

Before appointment to the Authority, members will be asked to confirm:

- (i) their support of the Authority and its purpose, and a willingness to attend meetings; and
- (ii) a willingness to work within the Vision and Objectives of the Authority.

3.0 Vision and Objectives

To produce and implement the Management Plans for Jersey's Ramsar Sites

Objectives

- To provide a strategic and inclusive approach to the development and publication of Ramsar Management Plans Jersey which will provide a range of benefits for multiple users and the natural, historic and cultural marine environment compatible with the established principles of the Ramsar Convention;
- To promote and foster an informed debate, and disseminate information, about the role of Ramsar sites in the management of the marine environment around Jersey;
- To seek ways of establishing consensus amongst stakeholders;
- To support the delivery of projects which are relevant to the purpose of the Authority;
- To ensure compliance with relevant local, national and international legislation, policies and best practice.

4.0 Administration of the Management Authority

4.1. The Authority

The Authority will consist of at least one representative from each of those organisations specified in the Appendix. Where appropriate, multiple representations will be agreed by the Authority. A member may send a substitute if necessary.

4.2. Secretariat

The Fisheries and Marine Resources section of the Planning and Environment Department will provide the Secretariat for the Authority. Administrative duties such as meeting organisation, minute taking and the drafting and circulation of papers will be undertaken by the section.

4.3. Meeting Frequency

The Authority will meet four times annually or as appropriate. Meetings will be open to the public. Agendas and minutes will also be made publicly available via the States of Jersey website and on request to Fisheries and Marine Resources.

4.4 Responsibility of the Authority members

- To work together to deliver the objectives of the Authority;
- To update other members on relevant developments regularly;

- To report back from the meetings to their members/management/colleagues;
- To act as a point of contact and feedback on the Authority for organisations and interested parties within their sector to ensure the widest possible stakeholder engagement;
- To provide expertise and guidance in their particular field;
- To use only suitably experienced and briefed staff and representatives;
- To operate within the confines of all relevant legislation;
- To attend Authority meetings

5.0 Other Circumstances

5.1. Dealing with External Bodies

Formal contact with the external bodies concerning the work of the Authority will be conducted through the Chair of the Authority. Authority members will provide details to the Secretariat of any other contact with the media related to Ramsar Management Plans.

5.2 Review of the Management Authority arrangements

Authority members will be given the opportunity to review the effectiveness and remit of this Terms of Reference document on an annual basis

Appendix I.

Membership of the Jersey Ramsar Management Authority (as of March 2010).
Numbers indicate normal number of attendees from organisation or sector.

Planning & Environment (Assistant Minister, Chief Officer, Fisheries & Marine
Resources (2), Environmental Protection (1), Ecology (1))
Economic Development (Harbours (1), Tourism (1))
Education Sport & Culture (1)
Transport and Technical Services (1)
Chairman Fisheries and Marine Resources Panel (1)
Receiver General (1)
Société Jersiaise (1)
National Trust (1)
RSPB (1)
Jersey Fishermen's Association (1)
Jersey Inshore Fishermen's Association (1)
Jersey Aquaculture Association (1)
Jersey Angling Representative (1)
Save Our Shoreline (1)
Marine Conservation Society (1)
Constables of respective Parishes (St Helier, St Martin, Grouville, St Clement, St
Ouen (1 from each))
Energy sector representative (1)

Additional Members for specific sites

Les Ecrehous and Les Dirouilles-
Les Ecrehous Residents Association (1)

Les Minquiers Residents (1)

Les Pierres de Lecq
Greve de Lecq boat owners Association (1)