

Summary of the National Park Consultation Process

A public consultation on the proposal for a National Park for Jersey was publicised and conducted during March 2009. The process included a questionnaire that was sent to 800 addresses within the St Ouen's Bay area and that was accessible to all on-line. Two stakeholder workshops were held on the 10th March and 11th March.

The key headlines from the questionnaire are that there is support for the concept with 84% either agreeing or strongly agreeing that the creation of a National Park would bring benefits to the Island. In relation to the scale of the proposed National Park, 84% either agreed or strongly agreed that the boundary should extend beyond St Ouen's Bay and of those, 83% either agreed or strongly agreed that the boundary should be extended to include the South-West coast from Noir Mont to Le Petit Port.

Both workshops were well attended (by 56 people in total) and were facilitated by external consultants Dialogue Matters and Environment Department employees who were specially trained in facilitation skills. Feedback from the workshops showed that the process design was well received. The workshops were designed to encourage a structured discussion to explore the idea of a National Park.

At the end of each workshop, attendees were asked to describe their level of support for the idea of a National Park. The outputs are summarised in the following table:

| | I oppose the idea | I have reservations | I can live with the idea | I support the idea | I strongly support the idea |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Day Workshop | ✓✓ | ✓✓✓✓✓✓ ✓ | ✓ | ✓✓✓✓✓✓ ✓✓ | ✓✓✓✓✓✓ ✓✓ |
| Evening Workshop | ✓✓✓✓✓✓ | ✓✓✓✓✓✓ ✓✓✓✓✓✓ | ✓ | ✓✓ | ✓✓ |
| No. | 8 | 19 | 2 | 10 | 10 |
| % | 16.3 | 38.8 | 4.1 | 20.4 | 20.4 |

At face value, the above response shows that more people oppose or are unsure about the National Park than support it. However, participants were also asked what would need to happen to increase their support and this reveals only 6 people (12%) who were totally opposed to the idea and could not think of anything that would increase their support. Many more (across all the other categories) are more open to the idea, but had some reservations.