



## Customs and Immigration Service

### Report

To: Minister for Home Affairs

Submitted By: Senior Manager Immigration Policy

Date: 10/03/2023

Subject: Immigration Rules: French Identity Card Pilot Scheme 2023

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#### Purpose of Report

To enable the Minister for Home Affairs to approve the use of French national identity documents by French nationals travelling to Jersey direct from France on day trips.

#### Background

French nationals travelling to Jersey on day trips were a regular feature pre-Brexit / Covid and aided in maintaining a cultural link between Jersey and France as well as boosting the local economy.

Following the United Kingdom's exit from the European Union a requirement was introduced for travellers arriving in the Common Travel Area (CTA) to carry a valid passport as a travel document, other than for a few exceptions.

The introduction of a pilot scheme for 2023 to allow French nationals to travel directly to Jersey on day trips using valid French national identity cards is hoped to further develop the Islands relationship with our closest French neighbours and provide a boost to our local economy.

This pilot scheme is an exception to the CTA standards for post-Brexit border controls and have been justified to the United Kingdom by the setting of stringent rules on the operation of this scheme. The Jersey Immigration Rules will need to be amended to reflect this exemption so that leave to enter will be specific to Jersey and will not permit onward travel to any other jurisdiction in the CTA.

This pilot scheme will:

- Operate between the 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2023 and the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023 (inclusive).
- Be for French nationals who hold valid French national identity documents (within the validity dates specific on the card).



- Apply to French national identity cards used for day trippers on the two commercial passenger ferry operators (Condor and Manche Isles) and not aircraft or small boats.
- Only be for day trips where a return ticket is booked for the same day.
- Be reviewed regularly by JCIS to ensure ferry company compliance (non-compliance will result in the scheme being closed).
- Be reviewed after the 30<sup>th</sup> September to determine its future and whether the desired outcomes have been achieved.
- Not apply to other EU national identity cards

Passengers arriving on their national identity cards in Jersey will need to satisfy trained Immigration Officers that they are genuine visitors in the Island on a day trip. Officers have the discretion to refuse any passenger.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Minister for Home Affairs instructs the Jersey Customs & Immigration Service to make the appropriate amendments to the Jersey Immigration Rules to enable French nationals travelling directly to Jersey on day trips to enter the Island on French national identity cards.

### **Senior Manager Immigration Policy**