

CLIMATE ASSEMBLY SESSION:

# Policy options and levers

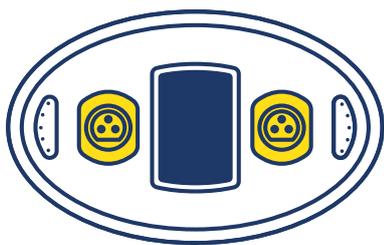
JERSEY ELECTRICITY SUBMISSION PAPER:

## Help us to help the Island

- **Jersey Electricity's Vision is to 'inspire a zero-carbon future'** and we want to encourage a green, low-carbon, economic recovery from the pandemic. We believe the Island can achieve carbon neutrality and we are committed supporting Jersey's progression to a cleaner, brighter future. But we know we cannot do it alone.
- **Further use of low-carbon electricity, particularly in the heating and transport sectors, is vital** and this needs to be coupled with a real focus on energy-efficiency, new technologies and, where possible, carbon sequestration.

### We are ready to invest and help

- **Jersey Electricity is ready to share our expertise and be part of any process to develop ideas and produce practical plans.** We have invested almost £200m in the last 10 years to provide Jersey with a robust network, and we are ready to provide further investment in grid infrastructure as necessary to meet the expected increase in electricity demand. But the 2030 timeframe is hugely stretching and we therefore also need Government support as well as a real desire from business and the community.
- For instance, we would like to see wider permitted development for electric vehicle chargers, planning guidance for new substation locations, future homes guidance (in support of both for retrofit and new builds, including carbon neutral and passive homes). We would also welcome the development of new stretching standards for all new buildings to push for a net-zero energy standard by 2030. We view this as a longer-term investment in our sustainable future, that will also lead to greater efficiency, lower energy costs and higher comfort levels.
- **We would like to accelerate our work in large-scale renewables** to enable us to introduce more roof and ground-mounted solar PV on to the grid and specifically find ways of making the technology cheaper than imported electricity. As local carbon sequestration has a role, we would also like to see the easing of consents for more tree planting such as those we are already undertaking in Mourier Valley and across the 12 parishes.



## A low-carbon economy at the centre of recovery

- **We recommend that we put a low-carbon economy at the centre of a strategy for recovery post COVID.** Jersey now has a huge opportunity to direct both private and public funds to support and reinforce a sustainable, carbon neutral Jersey across a range of sectors in a way that could bring the community together – fighting for a common goal that will not only improve quality of life but will also present Jersey as sustainability leader in the international community.
- Policy elements that we believe could deliver most impact on Jersey's carbon position include:
  - Attaching green 'conditions' to Government funding to ensure that recipients of Government funding have clear decarbonisation strategies aligned with Jersey's long-term climate and environmental goals.
  - Incentivising energy efficiency and building upgrades, particularly around Jersey's 27,000 pre-1970 housing stock. It is relatively easy to deliver a minimum 10-15% saving in energy consumption from improved insulation, modern lighting and energy controls. This sort of stimulus could support lower income employment and would largely stay within the community.



- Improving energy efficiency among the public sector in conjunction with public sector property strategy to rationalise buildings' use. Excess office capacity could be released to provide new space for the development of efficient homes, particularly in St Helier.
- Almost two thirds of the Island's non-transport related emissions come from residential and commercial activities — mostly from space and water heating but also cooking. Jersey has an estimated 25,000 fossil fuel boilers. To achieve carbon neutrality, the vast majority of these will have to be switched to electric boilers or heat pumps.
- Switching 25,000 fossil fuel boilers to electric solutions at an annual rate of 350 per year will take more than 70 years. This will need to be dramatically increased to achieve carbon neutrality within the next 10, 20 or even 30 years. Incentives to encourage this switching in the form of grants, GST free schemes and boiler scrappage arrangements could help accelerate the switching rate. Combining energy efficiency improvements and new smart home technology and controls with fossil fuel boiler replacement is particularly important.
- Incentivising the replacement of commercial fossil fuel cooking with all-electric induction hobs could be a way to support a beleaguered hospitality sector either via provision of grants, GST exemptions, or the provision of Government loans or guarantees for asset purchases.
- We would like to see a clearer policy on the future sale of petrol and diesel vehicles as well as more extensive support to consumers who wish to change their vehicles to EVs, as we have seen in other countries.
- Some of these measures will lead to higher electricity sales across Jersey's grid (offset by energy efficiency). However it is important to note that unit sales lead to grid (and cost) efficiencies which can be ploughed back into further investment or shared with customers in the form of lower prices than would otherwise be the case.



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