

## Future Guernsey – Priority Policy Area update (June 2019):

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| <b>Future Guernsey Themes:</b>   | Our Community<br>Our Quality of Life<br>Our Place in the World<br>Our Economy   |
| <b>Future Guernsey Outcomes:</b> | One community: inclusive and committed to social justice<br>Lifelong learning<br>Safe and secure place to live<br>Centre of excellence<br>Strong, sustainable and growing |
| <b>Priority Policy Area:</b>     | <b>Digital Connectivity</b>   |
| <b>Political Governance:</b>     | Committee <i>for</i> Economic Development<br>Committee <i>for</i> Home Affairs  |

| <b>Overview</b>  |  |
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| <p>The Committee <i>for</i> Economic Development published a Digital Framework in 2017 with input from the Committee <i>for</i> Home Affairs and the Policy &amp; Resources Committee. The action plans that support the delivery of the objectives set out in the framework are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital connectivity and infrastructure</li> <li>• Digital skills</li> <li>• Digital promote</li> <li>• Digital assurance</li> </ul> <p>Progress is monitored by and reported to Digital Guernsey, which is chaired by the Vice-President of the Committee <i>for</i> Economic Development, and which also includes a member of the Policy &amp; Resources Committee. It also has representation from officers supporting those two Committees as well as the Committee <i>for</i> Home Affairs, and representation from the Digital Greenhouse and Locate Guernsey.</p> <p>The overall strategy is guided by input at Digital Panel meetings, which includes representatives from business bodies, individual business bodies and organisations such as the Guernsey Financial Services Commission, the Office of the Data Protection Authority and Guernsey Finance.</p> <p>Progress over 2018-19 has been strong. A summary of points supporting that is set out below:</p> <p><u>Digital connectivity and infrastructure</u></p> <p>In summer 2018 the Committee <i>for</i> Economic Development published a telecommunications strategy following consultation and engagement with the public and private sector in the island. The States of Guernsey's Economic Development Strategy confirmed that the implementation of the telecommunications strategy was a critical priority, and resources have been prioritised to develop a government and regulatory framework to deliver the objectives of the strategy and to foster investment in the infrastructure required. A policy letter will be debated by the States' Assembly in 2019.</p> <p>Subject to the approval of the States' Assembly in June 2019, the economic pillar of the Future Digital Services project will support the development of a 'data economy' by supporting the development</p> |  |

of data storage and data analytics economic opportunities, and supporting the work of the Digital Greenhouse in the development of digital skills.

#### Digital skills

In 2018, the Committee *for* Economic Development agreed a further three-year investment in the Digital Greenhouse to build on its success in establishing a digital training and workspace hub during 2016-18. The excellent work of the Digital Greenhouse in supporting the digital skills objectives of the Skills Action Plan is set out in the Committee *for* Economic Development's Committee Policy Plan.

The Committee *for* Economic Development has worked with the Digital Greenhouse to foster an environment where digital skills are developed in partnership with industry, and welcomes the significant investment many Guernsey businesses have made in supporting the work of the Digital Greenhouse.

Subject to the agreement of the June 2019 policy letter by the States' Assembly, the opportunity to enhance the work on digital skills through the Future Digital Services project is significant.

#### Digital Promote

During 2018 the Committee *for* Economic Development has appointed a new team at Locate Guernsey and invested in it after a period of establishment. The new Locate Guernsey team has been tasked, among other things, with attracting digital businesses to Guernsey and it is working with the Digital Greenhouse in that respect.

The Digital Guernsey group is working with the FinTech group that is chaired by Guernsey Finance as part of the Finance Sector Strategy (that was published in autumn 2018) to further develop and promote Guernsey's FinTech offer. In addition, the implementation of electronic agents' legislation has added a further strength to Guernsey's Digital Promote offer as a jurisdiction.

#### Digital assurance

The Committee *for* Home Affairs has ensured that Guernsey meets international digital adequacy standards, which is essential in providing assurance that Guernsey is a safe and secure jurisdiction for businesses, public sector bodies and individuals. This is supported by the implementation of legislation equivalent to the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation ("**GDPR**") regime and the establishment of the Office of the Data Protection Authority.

Guernsey's cyber-secure strategy has been developed in partnership with the UK and Jersey, and the Committee *for* Home Affairs has established a cyber-security lead officer role. The Guernsey Financial Services Commission has also undertaken significant work in cyber-security and data security which is important for the jurisdiction, and developed a strong capability in this area, which is welcomed by the States.