



**JYP
STATEMENT**

STATES ASSEMBLY

APRIL 2022

**CARBON NEUTRAL
ROADMAP DEBATE**

Jersey Youth Parliament Statement

In 2018 the Government of Jersey launched the first pledge to Put Children First. Ministers, States Members and public service leaders committed to listen to children and young people. We believe that climate change is one of the most prevalent, ongoing issues for Jersey, and the rest of the world, and our thoughts and wishes should be listened to in order to build a strong framework for our futures and the future of the generations beyond us.

We value the opportunities we've been afforded as the Jersey Youth Parliament to allow us to play an active role in having our say in the development of the Carbon Neutral Roadmap. We thank the Minister for reading out our previous statement and for taking the time to read our current statement to the States Assembly which is as follows:

We consulted young people in Jersey through a survey that reached 13 different educational settings and the home school community. When young people were asked 'how important the environment is' to them it returned the high score of 8.32 out of 10, showing how concerned today's youth are about the climate crisis. In contrast 4.35 out of 10 was the rating that summed up how 'satisfied' participants were with the Government's response to the Climate Crisis.

We think that the Roadmap will be incredibly significant in aiding our transition to become a sustainable island.

There are areas where the roadmap lacked information necessary to make informed decisions. We support the idea of a scientific advisory panel to improve access to information on climate change data. We welcome the appointment of an Energy and Climate Change Minister and Scrutiny Panel as it is such an important topic.

We want the government to embrace the urgency that the timescale conveys and to respond to it by putting absolutely everything you have into combating this climate crisis.

JYP Statement continued.

We value greener electricity sources and believe it to be an important part of the carbon neutral plans. We need to ensure that we reduce our carbon emissions, to as low as possible, and we think this is an area requiring significant consideration. Jersey is a perfect place for active travel and with that in mind we support Deputy Ward's amendment concerning better funding for active travel.

We want the government to keep in mind the recommendations of the Citizens' Assembly and consider them carefully because we as a Youth Parliament believe that they are key in our Island's journey towards sustainability. The Citizen's Assembly was a key project for the government because they were able to get a bigger picture of what the whole community wants and not just the thoughts of politicians who often are likeminded. We are respectfully asking all leaders to be good role models for the people of Jersey, especially for young people and to set an example on how we as a whole community should take responsibility for our impact to the environment.

We want the States Assembly to enable the government to have a strong plan that supports change that lasts beyond the 4 year political cycle. We believe that Jersey should work alongside other countries to support and encourage positive environmental decisions. If we work alongside others we can share knowledge, skills and expertise to tackle a global problem together.

We would like to remind the States Assembly that you have made a Pledge for COP26 to Put Children First in response to the Climate Emergency. We look forward to being kept up to date with this as are in full support of the investment in this area.

A young person who participated in our survey said:

"We are making progress, but I don't feel like we're making it fast enough. We need to start implementing things quicker and adding more pressure to get things done."

This shows how worried the youth are about our future and we need your help to make a difference.

We need to work on climate change before there is no climate to change.