

PRESS RELEASE (Non-embargoed)

**ALDERNEY RESIDENTS PROPOSE
AN EIGHT-POINT PLAN FOR A SCOTTISH-STYLE OPERATION
FOR AIR SERVICES FROM ALDERNEY'S EXISTING RUNWAY**



In a letter sent to all members of the States of Guernsey and the States of Alderney, three Alderney residents have set out an eight-point plan for future air services from Alderney **without the need to extend Alderney's runway.**

Underlying their plan, aircraft acquisition and ownership remain with Government and that a suitably experienced Operator be appointed following completion of a Public Service Obligation tendering process.

The model suggested is broadly based on the "Scottish Model" which serves the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, and is the gold standard for air links to small island communities.

- Although an element of subsidy would still be required, it will be much less than at present.
- The proposal includes a 24/7 patient transfer service (Medevac) originating in Alderney which does not generally interfere with scheduled flights, the costs for such being much less than at present.
- There are no additional costs for the runway beyond refurbishing and updating it to the current CAA requirements.

- The operation requires three or four twin-engined Tecnam Traveller P2012 aircraft, seating nine passengers and a pilot.
- A capacity of 61,500 one way seats is available for flights between Guernsey and Alderney, the key criteria being flexibility, affordability and reliability.
- The plan includes limited services from Alderney to Jersey and Cherbourg which would not be subsidised.
- Air fares are set at a minimum level consistent with the operation achieving a break-even (after subsidy) in order to stimulate passenger traffic.
- The proposal does not include a direct service between Alderney and Southampton, which is not viable with aircraft of this size. Rather, it relies on a high level of integration with Aurigny, whether or not Aurigny chooses to undertake the operation itself.

Speaking for the group, Roger Dadd, the Founder of Channel Islands Air Search, said:-

“Our objective is to see Alderney provided with a reliable air service, with more frequent flights, increased seat capacity and the ability to meet seasonal demands with both aircraft and crews based in Alderney.

“Although we recognise that any decision for the future of Alderney’s air services must rest with the States of Guernsey, we believe it important that a proposal comes from Alderney residents which provides reliable low cost air links to the northern Isle **without the need for huge borrowings to expand Alderney’s airport.**

“We appreciate that our plan will not be all things to all people, but it takes its lead from the Scottish Highlands and Islands model and is tailored to the needs of a small community of two thousand people.”

A link to the Group’s Presentation may be found at:-

www.mgm-aviation.com/customer-page

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