

Islands Plan

FALKLAND ISLANDS | 2022-2026





Foreword

Our Islands Plan is more than just a blueprint for the next four years of this Legislative Assembly, it will also stand as proof of the actions that we intend to take on behalf of generations to come.

While there are critical, present-day decisions to be made, we are keenly aware that these will impact on the longer-term economic, environmental, political and social development of our home.

We want to use as much foresight as we can, in order to balance the needs of the future Falkland Islands, with our current reality. This is why you will see many explicit commitments to the protection and conservation of our environment throughout this Islands Plan.

We will work together to prevent existing problems from getting worse, such as climate change and social inequity. We will do this by genuinely acknowledging and understanding the challenges we face, rather than allow short-term political emergencies to take priority over the core issues that we all know need to change.

We have so much to be proud of in the Falkland Islands, but we also know that there is so much more that we can, and need to do. The things that we hold in high regard—our wildlife, our environment, our huge sense of community and way of life, and our undeniable right to determine our own way forward in the world—need to be protected, as much as they are celebrated.

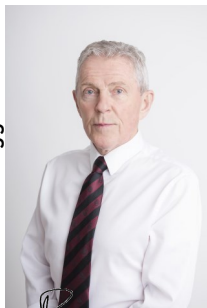
While everyone reading this plan will find different areas that are of interest or importance to them personally, there is something that all readers should find in common: a love for the Falkland Islands and everything that we stand for.

Our motto states: Desire the Right. This plan sets out how we intend to 'do right' by everyone that we represent and by the place that we are fortunate enough to call our home.

MLA Teslyn Barkman



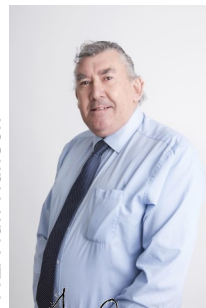
MLA Peter Biggs



MLA John Birmingham



MLA Ian Hansen



MLA Mark Pollard



MLA Leona Roberts



MLA Gavin Short



MLA Roger Spink



Self-Determination and Public Diplomacy

- ◆ We will continue work towards increasing our self-reliance and resilience as a forward-looking, twenty-first century country
- ◆ We will ensure we have an international voice, which represents our home and engages in dialogue with other nations
- ◆ We will encourage diversity and promote meaningful participation in democratic processes across the community

THEY ARE FEW IN NUMBER BUT THEY
HAVE THE RIGHT TO LIVE IN PEACE
TO CHOOSE THEIR OWN WAY OF LIFE
AND TO DETERMINE THEIR OWN
ALLEGIANCE.

- MARGARET THATCHER
APRIL 1982

This Assembly will:

- ➔ Complete the Constitutional Review, ensuring it reflects the modern realities of the Falkland Islands and the priorities of our people
- ➔ Focus on proactive, international public relations and public diplomacy
- ➔ Connect with our community (locally and overseas) by developing an inclusive approach to engagement and communications
- ➔ Widen the pool of candidates for future elections by increasing political awareness and education
- ➔ Involve our young people in democracy, by developing their political knowledge and offering avenues for involvement through schemes, such as the Youth Parliament and Junior Ambassadors programme
- ➔ Develop and deliver a Veterans Charter for the Falkland Islands to recognise those who have served

Protecting the Environment

- ◆ We will deliver the first four years of the Environment Strategy
- ◆ We will ensure we have the appropriate framework and measures in place to protect our environment against potential biosecurity risks
- ◆ We will proceed with a range of targeted actions and interventions, to shield and support our natural biodiversity across the Falkland Islands
- ◆ We will carry out work to measure and reduce our carbon emissions, in order to ensure we act as a responsible global citizen
- ◆ We will encourage responsible and ecological use of land and water, and make progress in restoring degraded land in public ownership
- ◆ We will increase our knowledge and awareness of the best, and most viable ways, to ensure we have an environmentally sustainable future

This Assembly will:

- ➔ Develop a mitigation and adaption plan for climate change that will include addressing the challenges of drying land, water management and rainfall
- ➔ Establish a carbon baseline and use this to develop off-setting schemes which ensure we meet our international obligations and have a plan for net zero
- ➔ Refresh our biosecurity strategy to address policy or legal gaps, and develop an enhanced invasive species policy
- ➔ Consult on ocean and land management and protection, including protected areas, with a view to conserving ecosystems
- ➔ Collect and analyse data to inform plans for environmental and sustainability outcomes, that will genuinely benefit our ecosystems
- ➔ Work with our community on education and outreach programmes to improve environmental awareness and encourage affirmative action

Sustained Economic Development for the Islands

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- ◆ We will support the ambition of a green and sustainable economy
 - ◆ We will improve and develop domestic and international connectivity
 - ◆ We will refresh the vision for tourism across the Falkland Islands
 - ◆ We will assist and encourage local business, entrepreneurship and diversification, to create conditions to support the growth of businesses
 - ◆ We will continue promoting and developing sustainable fisheries
 - ◆ We will support the rural economy and explore options for growth

This Assembly will:

- ➔ Investigate the opportunities and challenges in becoming a greener economy, including added value for exports and sustainable innovations
- ➔ Continue to cement our position as a Gateway to the Antarctic by building relationships with partners and developing our offer
- ➔ Support the long-term continuation of international commercial flights
- ➔ Review the tourism development strategy and improve local facilities to support the sector
- ➔ Remove barriers for local companies to participate in government procurement, including increasing the transparency of opportunities
- ➔ Support improvements to banking services and promote e-commerce
- ➔ Continue to ensure the sustainable management of our fisheries through increasing market access and improving regional controls
- ➔ Support agricultural innovation through the Responsible Wool Standard, funding a new wool warehouse and reviewing rural development policies and practices
- ➔ Progress extractive industries in an environmentally conscious way

Infrastructure, Transport and Communications



- ◆ We will clearly identify, prioritise and effectively manage government assets for the benefit of the whole of the Falkland Islands
- ◆ We will develop our utilities infrastructure to support current demand and make solid plans for future resilience
- ◆ We will seek to improve communications for the whole community

This Assembly will:

- ➔ Continue to make improvements to domestic transport services and critical Islands infrastructure
- ➔ Complete the design and construction of the new port
- ➔ Develop and implement infrastructure plans for key utilities, including renewable energy, power supply, water and sewage
- ➔ Continue to improve pollution control, waste management and viable recycling practices
- ➔ Progress a comprehensive management, maintenance and development programme for all government assets, including health and education estates
- ➔ Assess and agree a future model for heritage asset management
- ➔ Support the delivery of the new national sports facility
- ➔ Enable an increased range of housing and availability
- ➔ Undertake detailed, data-driven work to assess and improve whole-island communications requirements for the future

Health, Wellbeing and Social Care

- ◆ We will continue to prioritise and improve the resilience of health and social services
- ◆ We will continue to implement a significant range of improvements, to support more effective and efficient healthcare services
- ◆ We will embed positive wellbeing practices across government and encourage external partners to set similar objectives within their own organisations

This Assembly will:

- ➔ Continue to improve and deliver community support services for the most vulnerable people in our community, including opening the Tussac House facility
- ➔ Explore innovative ways to provide healthcare across the Islands
- ➔ Promote healthy lifestyle initiatives to help keep the community physically, emotionally and mentally well
- ➔ Strengthen our agreements with overseas healthcare partners
- ➔ Roll out a comprehensive wellbeing programme across the community

Education, Training, Workforce, Community and Culture

- ◆ We will continue to develop the provision of a lifelong education system and grow in-demand skills training for everyone across the Falkland Islands
- ◆ We will widen access and participation opportunities for sport and recreation, in conjunction with public health initiatives and promotions
- ◆ We will celebrate the history and diversity of the Islands via a new heritage and cultural strategy
- ◆ We will use the workforce strategy as a tool to improve the labour capacity of the Islands

This Assembly will:

- ➔ Complete and implement the review of the Education Ordinance and related policies
- ➔ Develop long term strategies for Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)
- ➔ Implement the recommendations of the Camp Education review
- ➔ Enhance frameworks for apprenticeships, graduate retention and second chance education, including ensuring fundamental language and maths skills
- ➔ Produce and implement a long-term sport and leisure services plan, and encourage wider participation in recreation activities
- ➔ Develop a new heritage and cultural strategy which recognises the diversity of our people and the distinct identities within our community
- ➔ Continue improving the childcare sector provision

Social Equity



- ◆ We will aspire to improve standards of living for the community
- ◆ We will appropriately resource and deliver the new housing strategy
- ◆ We will review and refresh national workforce protection policies and legislation, including ensuring we meet international obligations
- ◆ We will modernise national equalities policies and practices, and champion social equity values

This Assembly will:

- ➔ Evaluate minimum and living wages so that income inequality is reduced, and undertake reviews of pensions and taxation
- ➔ Implement the new housing strategy, including landlord and tenant protections, and explore the possibility of a fair rent scheme
- ➔ Consult the community on preferred options and improve our national workforce protections
- ➔ Review our national equalities policies to grow an environment, across the whole community, including employers and service providers, where discrimination is challenged, people feel they are treated fairly and are protected from discriminatory practices and behaviours
- ➔ Undertake a comprehensive, cross-departmental review of medical, dental, housing and education eligibility, to address the limits of current systems and evaluate potential future demand

Safety and Security

- ◆ We will support our emergency services to build and maintain public confidence
- ◆ We will ensure that the Falkland Islands has strong and secure borders
- ◆ We will increase cybersecurity protections for the benefit of our community
- ◆ We will continue to build on our positive and reciprocal relationship with British Forces South Atlantic Islands (BFSAI)

This Assembly will:

- ➔ Continue to modernise our immigration controls and policy processes, to improve customer experience and reinforce border security
- ➔ Implement a cybersecurity strategy, to enhance robust protection against current and future cyber threats
- ➔ Ensure community safety is at the heart of our frontline services
- ➔ Strengthen our emergency resilience to ensure we can provide an effective response to major incidents
- ➔ Continue to advance the maritime authority, so that seafarers are as safe as possible in our waters
- ➔ Maximise mutually beneficial opportunities for collaboration and cooperation with BFSAI

Organised and Effective Government



- ◆ We will develop a vision and values for our government, underpinning our commitment to delivering good public services
- ◆ We will continue to invest in our civil service, to ensure we have a strong, joined up workforce which meets the needs of the community
- ◆ We will strive to make the Falkland Islands Government an employer of choice
- ◆ We will promote transparency, openness and accountability in all decision-making

This Assembly will:

- ➔ Reduce internal bureaucracy and blockages to improve our work and our services
- ➔ Work to improve the wellbeing of our staff
- ➔ Continue to improve our budget forecasting and processes for managing budgets, statutory and subvention contracts, to ensure these deliver flexibility and value for money
- ➔ Focus on recruitment, retention and succession planning, for the longer-term resilience of government and essential frontline public services
- ➔ Investigate opportunities for digital transformation to support better engagement and service delivery for the Falkland Islands community
- ➔ Ensure our decision-making is informed, transparent and accountable, and will invite public scrutiny to examine our policies and practices



**FALKLAND ISLANDS
GOVERNMENT**

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