



Life in the United Kingdom and Islands

Bailiwick of Guernsey Supplement

A Journey into Citizenship

**Information for those applying for
permanent residence or for
British Citizenship**

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CONTENTS:

	Page
Foreword	2
Introduction	2
Section 1: History and Culture	3
Section 2: Constitution and Governance	6
Section 3: The Law and Legal System	13
Section 4: Everyday Life	15
Section 5: Other Islands of the Bailiwick	17
Appendix 1: Sources of Further Information	22
Appendix 2: Information about The Life In The UK Test	23
Appendix 3: Glossary	25

FOREWORD

This booklet must be read in conjunction with the Home Office publication entitled 'Life in the United Kingdom – A Guide For New Residents (Third Edition, 2013).

Information contained in the above-mentioned UK publication and this "Bailiwick of Guernsey Supplement" will form the basis of the Life In The UK Test. Further information about the test can be found in Appendix 2 on page 22.

INTRODUCTION

In this introductory section there is information about:

- **Where the Bailiwick of Guernsey is situated**
- **The names of the two Bailiwicks that together make up the Channel Islands**
- **The names of the islands which form the Bailiwick of Guernsey**

The Channel Islands, located in the Gulf of St. Malo off the North-West coast of France, are divided into two Bailiwicks – Guernsey and Jersey. Although the islands are situated within the geographical area known as the British Isles, they do not form part of the United Kingdom. They are also not and never were members of the European Union (EU).

The Channel Islands, along with the Isle of Man, an island situated in The Irish Sea off the northwest coast of England, are dependencies of the British Crown whose sovereign is King Charles III.

The Bailiwick of Guernsey comprises Guernsey, Herm, Jethou, Alderney, Sark, which includes the island of Brecqhou, Lihou Island and associated uninhabited islets. This document is concerned primarily with Guernsey, the largest island of the Bailiwick, with an area of over 65 square kilometres (approximately 24 square miles), 80% of land mass and populated by approximately 95% of the Bailiwick's residents.

This supplement describes the main differences that exist between the Bailiwick of Guernsey and the United Kingdom, particularly the way the islands are governed and the legal system that operates in the islands.

Each of the smaller islands has its own individual differences, although all form part of the Bailiwick of Guernsey.

SECTION ONE: HISTORY AND CULTURE

In this section there is information about:

- Which country the Channel Islands were part of before 1066
- How the Channel Islands came to have their own judicial systems.
- Why the Channel Islands were the subject of many disputes between England and France
- Which parties the islands of Guernsey and Jersey sided with during the English Civil War of the 17th Century
- Which historical event of the 20th Century made the Channel Islands unique compared with other parts of the British Isles
- Which language was originally spoken in Guernsey
- The period when English was adopted as a main language alongside French
- The population level of the Bailiwick of Guernsey as determined by the latest Electronic Census Report

1.1 The Channel Islands and France

The Channel Islands had become part of Normandy (now an area of France) long before the Duke of that region, whose name was William, invaded and conquered England in 1066, becoming King William I of England.

When Continental Normandy became part of France in 1204, the Channel Islands remained loyal to the King of England (King John) as the king promised to rule the islands as though he was the Duke of Normandy (i.e. observing the Duchy's laws, customs and liberties). This arrangement has been confirmed in charters of successive sovereigns that have secured for the islands their own judiciaries and freedom from the process of the English Courts.

The islands were the focal point of strife between England and France for many years due to their allegiance to England. At times, the French raided the islands and gained temporary footholds and, as a consequence, there are castles and fortresses around Guernsey that were originally built as a protection against invaders.

1.2 The English Civil War (Seventeenth Century)

During the period of the English Civil War and 'Commonwealth', Guernsey sided with the Parliamentarians under Cromwell, though the garrison holding Castle Cornet remained loyal to the King. The Castle was under siege for more than eight years and was the last Royalist stronghold in the British Isles to surrender to the English Parliament. During the time of siege it was supplied by sea from Jersey which had also sided with the King.

1.3 The German Occupation (1940 – 1945)

One historical event that made the Channel Islands unique in the British Isles was their occupation by Germany during the Second World War. It had been decided by the British authorities that it was impracticable to defend the islands and residents were offered the possibility of evacuation to England during the fall of France when invasion of the islands seemed likely.

Almost half the population of Guernsey and the total population of Alderney were evacuated. However, virtually nobody from Sark was evacuated. Following a bombing raid on St Peter Port, in which more than 30 people were killed, Guernsey was occupied by the German Army on 30th June 1940. Following almost five years of the deprivations of the 'Occupation', Guernsey was liberated on May 9th 1945 when the German forces surrendered. This event is celebrated annually on May 9th as 'Liberation Day', a public holiday. The remains of German fortifications throughout the island are a reminder of that period of occupation.

1.4 The Language

As is evidenced by local surnames and names of places, French was the original language of the islands. The original spoken language, a form of Norman French, is known as Guernesiaise, or informally as 'Guernsey patois'. The written language was standard French. Though attempts have, and are being made to preserve Guernesiaise, there remain now only a very small number of native speakers of the language.

English as the main language gradually gained ascendancy during the 19th and 20th centuries. The Government of the island, known commonly as "The States of Guernsey" in 1926 debated whether English should be permitted as an official language alongside French. They resolved that it should. However, the States declined to state that English should be the accepted language in the Courts and this was left to the Courts to decide. It was debated by the Guernsey Bar and Court in 1946 and agreed that the use of English in the Courts would evolve.

In 1969 a Law was introduced to confirm that using English was legal in documents regarding real property.

1.5. The Population

A census of the Bailiwick's population and households was carried out every five years from 1971 until 2001. Before 1971, a census was held every ten years. There are currently no plans to hold another census of the population in the foreseeable future. In common with other areas of Western Europe, the population has grown steadily over the last 200 years from the first census in 1800 of 16,155.

A recent estimate of the population as indicated by the Electronic Census Report of March 2019, was 62,792. The information is sourced from ten separate States of Guernsey databases from seven different States Departments and is collated from the Rolling Electronic Census IT system which was completed in December 2014.

SECTION 2: CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNANCE

In this section there is information about:

- Guernsey's constitutional status and the island's system of government
- The island's Legislative assembly, known as the "States of Deliberation" or "The States".
- Matters over which The States does not have the powers to legislate for the island
- The names and the main roles of the officers who are appointed by the Crown
- The organisations involved in the day to day administration of the island's affairs and their support staff
- The number and role of the island's Parishes and the responsibilities of main parish officials
- Guernsey's relationships politically with the United Kingdom and the European Union and the effects of these relationships

Guernsey is neither a sovereign state nor a part of the United Kingdom. It is part of His Majesty's possessions with an independent legislature, judiciary, a **Senior Committee** and a number of **Principal Committees and Authorities** which are politically accountable only to the Island's legislature, the **States of Deliberation**, and not to any parliament outside the Island.

The **Senior Committee, known as The Policy & Resources Committee**, which is also accountable to the States of Deliberation, coordinates policies and develops policy initiatives.

There is an important constitutional convention which recognises that the UK government only legislates for the island in matters such as nationality, defence and broadcasting and only after prior consultation.

The Island Legislative Assembly (parliament) is called the '**States of Deliberation**' – though usually known simply as '**The States**'.

2.1 The States of Deliberation

The States of Deliberation comprises **The Bailiff as presiding officer**, who acts as the moderator of debate at States' Meetings, **the thirty-eight People's Deputies**, who are elected by the people of Guernsey, **two representatives of the Island of Alderney** and **H.M. Procureur and H.M. Comptroller**. (The last two mentioned have no voting rights - see Crown Appointments, Section 2.2).

The thirty-eight People's Deputies are elected by the people of Guernsey to serve in the States of Deliberation by way of a **General Election** which must be held **every four years**. The electorate comprises all persons aged sixteen or over who are residentially qualified and who have registered their names on the electoral roll. Voting is carried out on an island-wide basis, with polling stations located in each of the island's parishes and a "super" polling station at which any eligible voters can cast their votes. Postal voting is also permitted.

Those wishing to serve as a People's Deputy must be aged eighteen or over and are subject to residential qualifications. They must be nominated during a set period of time before the date of the General Election. If successfully nominated, they have a "campaign period" of about five weeks when they are able to promote themselves to seek the support of the voters. A deputy candidate to run as an independent person or be affiliated to an approved Political Party.

States meetings are held approximately monthly with the exception of August. The States discuss matters that are put forward in **the Billet d'État**. This document primarily contains policy reports that are submitted by Departments of The States, providing information and containing recommendations. The Billet can contain a variety of matters concerning the government of Guernsey, in addition to any proposed legislation. Detailed reports are often attached as appendices to the Billet.

A proposed new item of primary legislation is known as a **Projet de Loi**. If approved by the States of Deliberation, it is then presented to His Majesty the King in Council and if sanctioned bears the title of 'Order in Council'. The States have powers in many areas to legislate without Royal Sanction by way of an Ordinance.

Laws go directly to the Crown via the Privy Council for Royal Assent. The Crown acts through the Privy Council, on the recommendation of UK government ministers, who act in this regard in their capacity as Privy Counsellors.

One of the few areas where the States of Guernsey does not have power to legislate for the Island is in matters of nationality. As Guernsey is not a sovereign state, and nationality is very much a matter of international law, it is for the United Kingdom to legislate in matters concerning nationality. The Bailiwick of Guernsey, along with Jersey and the Isle of Man, are included in the definition of United Kingdom for nationality purposes and, as a result of this, our nationality is the same as that of the United Kingdom i.e. British citizenship. All candidates for British citizenship are required, therefore, to undertake to uphold the democratic values of the United Kingdom and undergo the same procedures.

2.2 Offices held under the English Crown (Crown Appointments)

- **The Lieutenant-Governor** is the King's personal representative in the Bailiwick and is the official channel of communication between the Crown and the Bailiwick authorities. The Lieutenant-Governor is, by custom, a recently-retired, high-ranking officer in one of His Majesty's armed forces.
- **The Bailiff** is Guernsey's leading citizen and representative in non-political matters, with functions embracing judicial and civic duties and the more limited, but important, parliamentary role as the Presiding Officer at meetings of The States of Deliberation.
- **His Majesty's Procureur** and **His Majesty's Comptroller** are legal advisers to the Crown and the legislative assemblies of the Bailiwick. They are the equivalent of Attorney General and Solicitor General in the UK.
- **H.M. Greffier** is clerk to the Guernsey Judiciary and Legislature and also serves as Registrar-General of births, deaths and marriages.
- **H.M. Receiver-General** is concerned with the collection of dues (money owed) to the Crown and Crown revenues throughout the Bailiwick.
- **H.M. Sheriff** and **H.M. Sergeant** are officers of the legislature and judiciary with responsibilities which include executing judgements and sentences of the Court, and the service of process.

2.3 Day to Day Administration of The Island's Affairs

The structure of Guernsey's political system is made up of **a Senior Committee and a number of Principal Committees and Authorities** who have responsibilities allocated to them to ensure that good governance is achieved.

The members of each of these bodies are all members of the States of Deliberation and each Committee has a **President**.

The names and main responsibilities of these organisations are listed below:

The Senior Committee, known as **The Policy and Resources Committee**:

To co-ordinate policy including leading the policy planning process, the allocation and management of resources, including the States' budget and facilitating cross-committee policy development.

The Policy & Resources Committee shall designate its President or one of its members to be the States' lead member for external relations.

The Principal Committees are:

- **The Committee for Home Affairs**

Responsible for:

- crime prevention;
- law enforcement, including policing and customs;
- justice policy;
- the association between justice and social policy, for example domestic abuse and the misuse of drugs and alcohol;
- the Population Management Regime
- immigration regime;
- imprisonment, parole, probation and rehabilitation;
- fire, rescue and salvage;
- consumer protection and advice;
- trading standards;
- data protection;
- emergency planning;
- civil defence;
- lotteries and gambling;
- the electoral roll.

- **The Committee for Health & Social Care**

Responsible for:-

- adult social care;
- the welfare and protection of children, young people and their families;
- the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic diseases, illnesses and conditions;
- mental health;
- care of the elderly;
- health promotion;
- environmental health;
- public health.

- **The Committee for Environment & Infrastructure**

Responsible for:

- infrastructure, including but not limited to water, wastewater, the ports and the airports;
- spatial planning including the Strategic Land Use Plan;
- climate change;
- protection and conservation of the natural environment;
- waste, water and stone reserves;
- energy, including renewable energy;
- solid waste;

- general housing policy in relation to land use, spatial planning and infrastructure;
- the coast and coastal defences and the breakwater in Alderney;
- traffic and transport;
- the road network;
- biodiversity;
- agriculture, animal health and welfare and the sustainability of food and farming;
- maritime affairs;
- public parks;
- security of supply of essential commodities.

- **The Committee for Employment & Social Security**

Responsible for:

- financial and social hardship;
- social housing, including States' housing and the States' relationship with housing associations;
- supplementary benefit and housing benefit;
- social insurance;
- pensions;
- health insurance;
- long-term care insurance;
- equality and social inclusion, including in relation to disability;
- the unemployed and the various initiatives to encourage employment and re-employment;
- labour market legislation and practices;
- health and safety in the workplace;
- industrial relations;
- legal aid.

- **The Committee for Education, Sport & Culture**

Responsible for:-

- pre-school, primary, secondary, further and higher education;
- apprenticeships;
- skills;
- lifelong learnings;
- sport, leisure and recreation;
- youth affairs;
- the arts;
- libraries, museums, galleries and heritage;
- Island Archives;
- civic celebrations and commemorations, including Liberation celebrations.

- **The Committee for Economic Development**

Responsible for:

- the promotion and development of all sectors of business, including construction, creative industries, digital, financial services, horticulture, intellectual property, manufacturing, media, retail and tourism;
- the reputation of the Island as a centre for commerce and industry;
- securing the provision of, and promoting, air and sea links to and from the Bailiwick;
- inward investment at the corporate and individual level;
- the labour skills necessary to sustain economic prosperity;
- competition, innovation, diversification and regulation in the economy;
- broadcasting and the media;
- safeguarding living marine resources and the sustainable exploitation of those resources.

In addition to the Senior Committee and Principal Committees are a number of Authorities, Boards and Commissions known as:

- **The Development & Planning Authority**
- **The Civil Contingencies Authority**
- **The Transport Licensing Authority**
- **The Overseas Aid & Development Commission**
- **The States' Trading Supervisory Board**
- **The States' Assembly & Constitution Committee**
- **The Scrutiny Management Committee**

Further details about these organisations can be found on the States Of Guernsey's website, www.gov.gg.

All the above-mentioned Committees and Authorities are supported by a professional Civil Service. In addition, they employ non-Civil Service staff including manual workers, nurses, teachers and police.

2.4 Parish Administration

The Island is divided into **ten parishes**, each with a similar administrative system. The administration body of each parish is known as the **Douzaine**. Members of the Douzaine are known as **Douzeniers** and they are elected by the Parishioners. Each parish has a parish hall where the meetings of the Douzaine are held.

Important officers of the parish include the **Junior and Senior Constables** and the **Douzeniers**. Constables carry out the everyday administration of the parish and are responsible for the inspection of licensed premises and road closures. Douzeniers discuss the States Billets and any other matters that relate to the parish. They are also responsible for inspecting hedges and streams twice a year to ensure they meet legal requirements. The Procureur of the Poor (if a parish has appointed one) deals with matters concerning public assistance for needy parishioners.

Parish income is derived mainly from an 'Occupier's Rate' paid annually by those who live in the parish. The Rate is based on the 'rateable value' of property owned by the parishioners and is levied to meet the costs of expenses incurred by the individual parishes.

Parish responsibilities include the coordination of refuse collection and support for the recycling of waste, street lighting, part of the upkeep of the Parish Church, Cemetery and Rector's residence, hedge, stream and quarry inspections and other duties dependent upon parish amenities.

SECTION 3 **THE LAW AND LEGAL SYSTEM**

In this Section there is information about:

- **The judiciary in the Bailiwick and the police force.**
- **How Criminal Law and Civil Law are administered in the Bailiwick.**
- **The roles of the practitioners of law in the Bailiwick.**
- **The nature and operation of Administrative Tribunals.**

3.1 The Judiciary

The judiciary in the Bailiwick is entirely independent. **The Bailiff** is the President of the Royal Court and the Court of Appeal. He is assisted by a Deputy Bailiff, Judge of the Royal Court and Judges of the Magistrate's Court.

His Majesty's Procureur and **His Majesty's Comptroller** are the principal legal advisers to the States and are responsible for all criminal prosecutions.

Guernsey has its own police force, which is modelled on police forces in the United Kingdom.

Bailiwick Laws may differ from those in the United Kingdom and can have different penalty tariffs as, for example, in the classification and sentencing policies for illegal drugs.

3.2 Trial

Prosecutions are brought in the name of "The Law Officers of the Crown" (H.M. Procureur and H.M. Comptroller). The Criminal Law and Procedure in the Bailiwick is generally similar to that of England and Wales with one notable exception. The 'jury system' does not operate in the Bailiwick. While lesser charges are tried in the **Magistrate's Court** (presided over by a Magistrate), more serious matters are dealt with in the **Royal Court**. There are also courts in

Alderney and Sark, with serious matters being dealt with by the Royal Court in Guernsey.

When a trial is held in the Royal Court the case is heard before the Bailiff or Deputy Bailiff and at least seven *Jurats*. *Sixteen Jurats in total*, invariably persons of standing within the community, are elected by an electoral college known as the States of Election. This body includes all members of the 'States of Deliberation', supplemented by Jurats and the Law Officers, the Rectors of the island's parish churches and representatives of the Douzaines. The Jurats decide whether the defendant is guilty or not guilty. ***This is different from the "trial by jury" system that operates in the UK where members of the jury are ordinary people who have been requested to undertake jury service.***

The verdict may be reached by a simple majority. In the event of a guilty verdict, the defendant has a right of appeal to the Court of Appeal. Judges of the Court of Appeal are appointed by the Crown.

3.3 Civil Law

Common law in the Bailiwick derives from the customary law of Normandy in France but in recent times this has become progressively anglicised. However, the customary law of Normandy still has great significance in relation to real property and inheritance.

Relevant judicial decisions also form a source of law in the Bailiwick. Where no precedent can be drawn from Bailiwick law, Courts generally have regard to the laws of England and Normandy.

3.4 Advocates

The practitioners of law in the Bailiwick are known as **Advocates** of the Royal Court of Guernsey. Before being admitted to the Guernsey Bar as an Advocate, he or she must have satisfied stringent conditions of academic qualification, examination, pupillage (a period of apprenticeship) and residency.

An Advocate in the Bailiwick combines the functions of an English barrister and an English solicitor. Although any lawyer may practise here, only an Advocate of the Royal Court has the right to plead in the Bailiwick Courts and advise on local law.

3.5 Administrative Tribunals

Guernsey has adopted a system of **administrative tribunals**, generally set up under statutory powers, to exercise judicial functions separate from the courts. Compared with the courts, they tend to be more accessible and are less formal and expensive. They also possess expert knowledge within their particular area of jurisdiction.

Independent of Government, tribunals rule on a variety of matters including industrial disputes and those between private individuals and public authorities.

SECTION 4 EVERYDAY LIFE

In this Section, there is information about:

- The main industries that have provided major contributions to Guernsey's economy over recent centuries.
- The main industries that currently provide employment on the island.
- Rules that exist in the Bailiwick concerning matters relating to immigration, employment and housing.
- Healthcare services that are available within the Bailiwick.
- Education on the island.
- Taxes and Social Insurance.

While everyday life in Guernsey has great similarities with that in the United Kingdom, there are differences, some of which are obvious, such as having no letters on vehicle number-plates and 'filter-in-turn' traffic arrangements that appear at some busy road junctions.

4.1 Economy and Employment

Until the end of the Seventeenth Century, the economy of Guernsey was based on **agriculture** and **fishing**, supplemented by the cottage industry of knitting **woollen goods**. Of these woollen goods, it is the distinctive sweater known as a 'Guernsey', which is still manufactured today.

For one hundred and fifty years, across the whole of the Eighteenth Century, '**Privateering**' flourished as an industry with substantial numbers directly or indirectly involved. Privateering involved people going out in sailing ships and trying to capture enemy ships and seize any valuable cargoes. This was distinct from 'Piracy' and required the 'Privateer' to hold 'Letters of Marque' before they could operate. Their exploits and seizure of vessels, crew and cargoes were governed by the laws of Admiralty and 'Privateers' were bound to declare them to the Courts. A court process would then ensue as to the division of the spoils and return of merchant seamen to their native country.

This period witnessed the growth of the town of St Peter Port and the construction of fine country houses and Georgian buildings, shaping the Island's built environment on the proceeds of Privateering.

Boat building and the **quarrying of granite** flourished in the Nineteenth and early Twentieth Centuries with more than a hundred working quarries mainly in the north of the Island. Today these disused quarries have found new purposes including water storage and refuse disposal.

From the late Nineteenth Century the Island progressively turned towards **tourism**, but mainly **horticulture**, as its main industry – as seen with “vineries” (glasshouses) still covering large areas of land. Vast quantities of produce were exported, predominantly tomatoes to the United Kingdom. The industry's decline in the latter part of the Twentieth Century was accompanied by the rise of **the financial services industry** and the industries associated with it.

The **financial services industry** has flourished and provides employment for many islanders. The industry is diverse and includes banking, portfolio and investment fund management, administration of companies and trusts and various forms of insurance. It is the largest private sector industry in the Bailiwick.

Other private sector industries that operate in the Bailiwick include:

- Retail and Wholesale
- Construction
- Hotel and Catering
- Manufacturing

There are also a small number of Primary industries, including agriculture, horticulture and fishing.

4.2 Immigration

The UK Immigration Acts are extended to the Bailiwick of Guernsey by Order in Council where appropriate, suitably modified and adapted for the Bailiwick. The Bailiwick has its own immigration Rules which follow closely those in the UK. The immigration controls of foreign nationals are integrated with those of the UK, except in the area of employment, where the Bailiwick sets its own work permit policy.

As far as the extended Immigration Acts are concerned, British citizens are free to enter and stay in the Bailiwick. However, there are laws in Guernsey which control the occupation of dwellings which are linked to the ability to take employment. These laws apply to all nationalities and are explained further in Section 4.3 below. Alderney and Sark also have their own laws concerning residence and employment.

4.3 The Population Management Law

Due to its small size and demographic profile, Guernsey has chosen to manage the size and make-up of its population.

It does this by making it a legal requirement that every person living in Guernsey aged 16 or over (or under 16 but in any type of employment) must hold an Employment Permit or Resident Certificate/Permit, confirming that they

have permission to live and work in the island. This system of Permits and Certificates sits alongside the immigration regime, and is applied to all residents, regardless of their nationality.

Employment Permit applications can be made only by employers, who invite their prospective employee to complete part of the application before it is submitted to the Population Management Office.

Resident Certificates/Permits are generally issued to people who have strong family/historical connections with Guernsey, including because they are an immediate family member of - and want to live with - a person who holds a certain type of Employment Permit.

People who make a lifestyle choice to come to live in Guernsey, but who do not have an Employment Permit and do not have strong family/historical connections with Guernsey, must live in Open Market housing. The Open Market is split into 2 residential categories, Open Market Part A, which are family homes and allow the individual to remain on Guernsey indefinitely in Part A of the Open Market, and Open Market Part D, which is a house of multiple occupants and is capped at 5 years aggregate residence. This special category of housing is limited: of the island's 27,000 domestic properties, only approximately 1,600 are Open Market Part A homes. The remainder are referred to as 'Local Market' homes, and are reserved for people holding certain types of Employment Permit, or those with a Resident Permit/Certificate enabling them to be a Local Market resident.

In general terms, people who live in Open Market (Part A) housing must be related to the householder, or be employed full-time in the running of the household (for example as housekeeper, grounds person, nanny etc.). The household employee's immediate family members can also be accommodated, if the householder wants to do so. People living in Open Market (Part A) housing can also accommodate both immediate and extended family members as well as any lodgers.

Special Open Market (Part A) Resident Permits/Certificates are available upon application to the Population Management Office for people moving into Open Market (Part A) accommodation. These Permits/Certificates enable the person to work in any job in the Island. Adults who move to Guernsey to live in an Open Market (Part A) home should not expect ever to be able to access Local Market housing.

Adults who live in Local Market housing for 14 consecutive years can generally expect to become Permanent Residents, and thus gain life-long residency and employment rights in Guernsey.

The above summary is for information and guidance only. More information on this subject can be found at www.gov.gg/populationmanagement. For detailed advice, please contact the Population Management Office (population@gov.gg) for detailed advice.

4.4 Healthcare

The National Health Service (free at point of service to the patient) does not operate within the Bailiwick – this is one essential difference from the United Kingdom.

The Island has however developed a system of healthcare to alleviate the financial burden of those with medical or surgical conditions. No charge is made for Hospital accommodation and associated nursing services, or for the cost of specialist treatment for acute and chronic care.

The majority of Island residents choose to have private medical insurance to cover other health costs – principally those involving General Practitioner consultations.

4.5 Education

By law, compulsory schooling in the Bailiwick of Guernsey is from age five to age sixteen. There exists a full and wide range of schools and education services in the Bailiwick which range from pre-school education provision right through to people being given the opportunity to undertake Further and Higher Education on the island.

Education services are also available for those who possess moderate, severe or profound learning difficulties.

Full details of all the Bailiwick's education and learning services and support can be found on the website: www.gov.gg/education.

4.6 Taxes

Income Tax has long had a standard rate of 20% of earnings and, unlike the United Kingdom and many Member States of the European Union, there is no Inheritance Tax, Capital Gains Tax, nor, more obviously, Value Added Tax (VAT) [Goods and Services Tax].

4.7 Social Insurance Contributions

Social Insurance contributions, administered by the Social Security Department, are required from all adult members of the Guernsey community until they reach

the State Retirement Age, which is currently between 65 and 70 depending on a person's date of birth. Some Social Insurance contributions may continue for those working beyond this age and for long term care. Contributions are income-related but subject to an upper earnings limitation.

Full details of all matters concerning Social Insurance contributions and benefits can be found on www.gov.gg/sscontributions.

SECTION 5 OTHER ISLANDS OF THE BAILIWICK

In this Section there is information about:

- **Herm and Jethou**
- **Alderney**
- **Sark, including the Island of Brecqhou**
- **Lihou Island**

Though historically and culturally similar, the smaller islands of the Bailiwick have their own differentiating characteristics and institutions. While a greater degree of independence was possible in the past, increased expectations of modern communities – for example in Healthcare and Education – ensure closer links with Guernsey.

5.1 Herm and Jethou

Herm is owned by Guernsey and is an integral part of Guernsey for the purposes of all legislation.

Jethou is not part of Guernsey and is owned by the Crown. It is leased to Guernsey and sublet to tenants. Only some Guernsey legislation applies to Jethou.

5.2 Alderney

Alderney has a population of 2,039, according to the 2018 Electronic Census Report. It has a land area of approximately nine square kilometres. Mainly through its geographical situation, Alderney was little developed until, in the middle of the Nineteenth Century, the British government decided to fortify the Island and create a harbour to deter attacks from France. The breakwater, together with German fortifications (constructed during the period from 1940 – 1945, when almost the whole population of the island was evacuated), are conspicuous Island features.

Governance of the Island is by the 'States of Alderney' consisting of 10 elected members and a President. Everyday management is provided by a small Civil

Service headed by a Chief Executive that assists the three main committees: Policy and Finance, Building and Development Control, and General Services. Alderney is integrated with Guernsey for most taxation purposes and the States of Guernsey is responsible for certain public services in Alderney. Two members of the States of Alderney sit in Guernsey's States of Deliberation.

Unlike Guernsey, Alderney does not apply a 'Housing Law' and therefore has fewer restrictions on the occupancy of dwellings by outsiders. There are, however, laws which restrict employment in Alderney.

5.3 Sark

Sark, which includes the island of Brecqhou, is part of the Bailiwick of Guernsey. However, Sark uniquely is a Crown Fief and has its own legislative assembly called "Chief Pleas". Sark is a self-governing jurisdiction and, as such, is a fully functioning parliamentary democracy. Sark has its own fiscal and legal systems, including its own court of law. Guernsey retains legislative jurisdiction in the field of Bailiwick-wide criminal justice matters.

Sark has a resident population of about five hundred but this rises considerably in summer with the influx of seasonal workers for tourism and hospitality. Although at approximately five and a half square kilometres it is smaller than Alderney, Sark enjoys a greater degree of autonomy from Guernsey, and derives its own revenue through a system of taxation which does not include income tax. Property laws in Sark are complex.

The Island was often uninhabited until the middle of the Sixteenth Century when the first **Seigneur** was granted Sark on a feudal tenure with a condition it be kept inhabited. The Island was divided into 40 farms or tenements. The title of "Seigneur" (meaning "Lord" in French) is hereditary and the holder of the title has the right to sit and speak in Sark's legislature (government), known as "Chief Pleas".

On December 10th 2008, history was made when electors were able to choose all the political members of Chief Pleas. Thus ended four hundred and fifty years of feudalism, because previously Chief Pleas consisted of the forty non-elected land owners, known as "tenants", who owned the tenements, and only twelve elected "deputies".

The elected members, eighteen in total, are known as "**conseillers**". A Sark resident is elected by the members of the Chief Pleas to fulfil the role of President of Chief Pleas, who also acts as a Returning Officer and Trustee of Island Properties. ***The only unelected members of Chief Pleas are the Seneschal, and the Seigneur.***

The Seneschal, appointed by the Seigneur and with the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor of Guernsey, presides over the Island's only Court. She is a Judge who oversees civil matters, a Magistrate for criminal offences and a Coroner for inquests.

Appeals as a result of cases heard in Sark's Court can be made to the Guernsey Royal Court which may also veto decisions of the legislature if considered 'ultra vires' or unreasonable. The Royal Court in Guernsey does not, however, have the power to interfere with decisions in respect of a *Projet de Loi* which is to be transmitted to His Majesty in Council for approval through official channels. The power of the Royal Court relates only to Ordinances.

Sark, more than other islands of the Bailiwick, has maintained its rural atmosphere – most conspicuously in transport because cars and motorbikes are banned.

5.4 Lihou Island

Situated off the west coast of Guernsey is a small island which is accessible on foot only at very low tide. Lihou Island has one house and the remains of an ancient priory. The island is let to tenants by the States of Guernsey, the current tenant being a Charitable Trust that was formed to ensure that Lihou Island remains a visitor attraction and it is possible to stay in for a few nights.

APPENDIX 1

SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information about life in the Bailiwick of Guernsey is obtainable from many sources within the Bailiwick, a few of which are mentioned below.

Important information appears on the website ***www.gov.gg***, the official website of the States of Guernsey. On this site can be found detailed information about employment, housing, healthcare, education, taxation and many other matters that affect the lives of those living in the Bailiwick.

The local newspaper, '**The Guernsey Press**', published daily (except Sunday) is a source of up-to-date information and carries within it a section entitled '**La Gazette Officielle**' where all notices which have to be proclaimed and published in accordance with the law are printed.

News of what is going on in the Bailiwick can also be obtained from the websites ***www.thisisguernsey.com*** and ***www.gsy.bailiwickexpress.com***.

Other useful sources of information that include news items and details of historical, cultural and sporting events can be obtained from the following organisations:

	website	Telephone
The Guille-Alles Library	www.library.gg	720392
The Priaulx Library	www.priaulxlibrary.co.uk	721998
The Guernsey Museum and Art Gallery		226518
BBC Guernsey	www.bbc.co.uk/guernsey	200600
Channel Television Limited	www.channelonline.tv	241888
Island FM (Radio)		242000
The Tourist Information Centre		223552
Beau Sejour Leisure Centre		225200
The Princess Royal Centre for Performing Arts		749900

APPENDIX 2

INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIFE IN THE UK TEST

If you wish to apply for naturalisation as a British citizen or for indefinite leave to remain, you have to take the Life in the UK Test. If you are aged 65 or over or have a long term physical or mental condition that prevents you from meeting the knowledge of language and life in the UK requirement, you may be exempt.

If you are not sure what your level of English is, please contact the Guernsey College of Further Education, telephone number 227500 or email: college@gcfe.net

Where and when can I take the Life in the UK Test?

You can arrange to take the test at the GTA University Centre. To book your test, please contact the test supervisor, Helen Barker Tel: 224570. Should you have any special requirements for taking the test, please advise the GTA at the time of booking.

How much does it cost?

The test costs £55 and this fee will need to be paid before you take the test. You can pay the fee by cash, credit/debit card or cheque (made payable to the GTA University Centre).

What happens if I need to cancel or postpone my test?

If, after having booked your test, you need to cancel or postpone the test until another time, please inform the test supervisor and you will be advised of the next date and time of the test.

What must I bring along to the test?

You must bring some photographic identification with you to present to the test supervisor. This should be a valid or recently-expired passport or identity card from your country of origin. The test supervisor will check the photographic identification and will also record some other personal details such as your name, nationality and current address including the Post Code.

What does the test consist of?

The test will consist of a written test paper without access to a computer. You will have 45 minutes to answer 24 questions. This should give you plenty of time to choose your answers and check them again before the end. You can have longer to take the test if you have particular needs. Please advise the test supervisor about these needs when you book your test.

The first eighteen questions in the test are based on the information contained in the official booklet “Life in the United Kingdom – A Guide For New Residents (Third Edition, 2013)”. and the remaining six questions are based on this Local Supplement to the booklet.

“Life in the United Kingdom – A Guide For New Residents” is a UK Home Office Publication that can be ordered from a local or on-line bookshop or direct from the UK Government’s Stationery Office (www.tso.co.uk). The cost of this publication is £12.99. The ISBN number is 9780113413409.

The pass mark for the test is 75%, i.e. you must answer correctly at least eighteen of the twenty four questions.

What happens when I have completed the test?

Your test results will be notified to you as soon as possible. If you are successful, you will receive a letter notifying you of your pass.

Please note that passing the Life in the UK Test is only one of a number of criteria you are required to fulfil in order to be eligible to apply either for naturalisation as a British citizen or for indefinite leave to remain. Further advice should be sought from the Immigration and Nationality Division of the Guernsey Border Agency. Please include the letter notifying you of your pass with any application you make.

What happens if I fail the test?

If you fail the test, you can take the test again, but it is not recommended that you do this straightaway. You will then need to book a new test to be held on a future date. There is no limit to the number of times you can take the test.

If you feel that you did not pass the test because of the standard of your English, please contact the Guernsey College of Further Education, telephone number 227500 or email: college@gcfe.net for an English assessment test and further advice.

Further information

If you require any further information about the Life in the UK Test, please contact Helen Barker at the GTA University Centre. Tel: 224570 Email: exams@gta.gg

APPENDIX 3

GLOSSARY OF TERMS AS USED IN THIS SUPPLEMENT

Accession	The act of becoming a party to a <i>treaty</i> or formal agreement.
Accountable	Responsible.
Admiralty (The)	The UK Department that formerly administered the Royal Navy. The Royal Navy is now administered by the Ministry of Defence.
Allegiance	Loyalty, devotion.
Amenities	The facilities available to people living in a district that can enhance the pleasantness and desirability of the place.
Anglicised	Turned into English language.
Authorities	Legitimate persons or bodies who exercise the power to command or act in a political or administrative sphere.
Bailiff	In Guernsey, the Chief Justice/Judge and chief citizen of the island.
Bailiwick	A district or region within which a <i>Bailiff</i> has <i>jurisdiction</i> .
Bar	“To call to the Bar” = to be accepted as someone who can present or defend cases in Court. (In Guernsey these lawyers are known as Advocates.)
Breakwater	A barrier built out into the sea to protect a coast or harbour from the force of waves.
Census	An official count of the inhabitants of a country or any similar official enumeration. (e.g. A traffic census.)
Charter	An instrument in writing, granted by the sovereign or <i>parliament</i> , incorporating a borough, company or institution, or conferring certain rights and privileges.
Common Law	Law based on custom (usage) or judicial precedent rather than law

	that is laid down by governing bodies by way of written statute.
Commonwealth	A free or independent state or community; a democratic republic. The Commonwealth of Nations, often simply referred to as the (British) Commonwealth, is an international association of 56 member states, the vast majority of which are former territories of the British Empire.
Constitution	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The established form of government in a State or other organisation. 2. A system of essential or basic rules or principles for the government of a State or an organisation.
Convention	An agreement. A <i>treaty</i> .
Corporate	United in a body and acting as an individual who is authorised to act as a single entity and recognised as such in law.
Cottage industry	A small-scale industry in which the workers, who are usually self-employed, work at home. Can be a business or manufacturing industry.
Customary Law	Long-established practice based on custom rather than common law or statute.
Decreed	Decided by law.
Defendant	A person summoned into court to answer some charge.
Deliberation	Discussion of reasons for and against a proposal. A debate.
Deprivation	The state of lacking adequate social, educational and medical facilities or something which most people take for granted.
Dialect	A form of speech or language peculiar to a particular district or people.
Duchy	The territory, <i>jurisdiction</i> or dominion of a Duke.
Dwelling	A house or other place in which someone lives.

Electoral college	A body of people, chosen by a larger group, who elect a person for an office.
Electoral Roll	The official list of the people in an area or district who are entitled to vote in an election.
Electorate	A body of electors. People in a country or area who are entitled to vote in an election.
Evacuation	The transfer of people from a danger zone.
Executive	The branch of a government or of a business which makes the decisions.
Fiscal	Relating to the public revenue (income) or exchequer or to taxes.
General Practitioner (GP)	A community doctor who treats patients who have minor or chronic illnesses.
Georgian	Relating to the period of the English Kings George I – IV (1714 – 1830). In British architecture, the term Georgian is generally associated with that of restrained elegance and a neo-classical style.
Governance	The manner or system of governing.
Granite	A granular igneous (solidified from lava or hot fluid from the earth's crust) rock which is very hard and is a mixture of quartz (a mineral), mica (a mineral) and feldspar (a type of rock).
Horticulture	The art of cultivating flowers, fruit and vegetables or managing gardens.
Immigration	The action of coming to live permanently in a foreign country.
Infrastructure	The basic physical and organisational structures, e.g. buildings, roads, power supplies, needed for the operation of a society or business.
Inheritance	The right of an heir of a deceased person to succeed i.e. to receive some or all of the deceased's property.
Initiative	The ability to begin something.
Judiciary	A group of Judges.
Jurat	In the Channel Islands a person who acts as a permanent jury member

	and performs certain, more minor judicial roles.
Jurisdiction	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The legal power or right of administering justice, making and enforcing laws, or exercising other authority. 2. The district or extent within which such power may be exercised.
Legislation	The act or process of making laws.
Legislature	A body of people in which is vested the power or right to enact, alter, repeal or suspend law (a parliament). In the Channel Islands called "The States."
Letters of Marque	The document by which <i>privateers</i> were commissioned by the government or the monarch to undertake their duties.
Magistrate	A public officer commissioned to administer the law. Can be a Justice of the Peace (JP). Conducts a court concerned with minor offences and holds preliminary hearings for more serious ones.
Mandated	Directed by electors to act in a certain way. Addressed to a representative body requiring it to undertake certain legislation.
Moderator	A person who presides at a meeting to ensure fairness and consistency.
Ordinance	A type of legislation with the force of law.
Parish	An ecclesiastical or civil district for the purposes of local government. Usually the smallest unit of local government in rural areas. Guernsey is divided into 10 parishes.
Parliament	A legislative body. A deliberative assembly (one that holds debates and discussions.)
Parliamentarian	A person who supported the parliament against King Charles I in the English Civil War.
Patois	A non-standard <i>dialect</i> of a district or group of people.

Plead	(Legal) To address a court on behalf of someone.
Portfolio	A financial term that refers to a range of investments held by a person or an organisation.
Practitioner	A person who regularly carries out a profession. (E.g. in Law or Medicine.)
Pragmatism	An attitude that deals with matters in a way that is based on practical rather than theoretical considerations.
Precedent	Something done or said which may serve as an example to be followed in a similar case, especially a legal decision. A recognised practice.
Primary industry	An economic term that describes an industry that is concerned with obtaining or providing raw materials, such as mining, agriculture or fishing.
Privateer	An armed ship owned and crewed by private persons commissioned by a government or monarch by <i>Letters of Marque</i> to engage in war against a hostile nation, especially to capture merchant shipping.
Process	The course of proceedings in an action at law.
Progressively	Increasing step by step.
Protocol	An addition to a <i>treaty</i> which adds to its provisions or clarifies them.
Pupillage	(Legal) The apprenticeship period of a Barrister or, in Guernsey, an Advocate.
Quarry	A place from which building stone, slates, etc. are dug, cut or blasted from the land.
Rateable value	The estimated value of a property used annually to assess the rates (property taxes) chargeable on the property.
Real Property	Immoveable property such as land and the buildings on it.
Rector	A member of the clergy in charge of a parish.
Residence	A person's home.
Royalist	A supporter of Royalism or of monarchical government, especially

	a supporter of the royal cause during the English Civil War.
Solicitor	A legal practitioner authorised to advise clients (e.g. about wills, conveyancing, etc.) and prepare cases for Barristers but not to appear as advocate in the higher courts (UK).
Sovereign	A supreme ruler. A King or Queen, an Emperor or Empress, a monarch.
Statute	Written law that has been enacted (passed) by a legislative body, e.g. a parliament.
Statutory	Enacted, regulated, enforced or recognised by statute.
Surname	A family name which goes after a person's given or Christian name.
Tariff	Duties payable on the import or export of goods or services.
The National Health Service	A public service in the UK that provides medical care, funded by the British Government.
Treaty	An agreement formally concluded and agreed by or between different States or countries.
Treaty rights	Rights and privileges given under a treaty.
Tribunal	A court of justice. A board of arbitrators, i.e. independent people, that has been established to settle certain types of dispute.