

## Election 2022 Jersey Evangelical Alliance Questionnaire

(Please respond by 2 June 2022 to [secretaryjea@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryjea@gmail.com) )

1. Would you be in favour of expanding voting rights to all resident Islanders over the age of 16 and eliminating the two-year residency requirement before a person is allowed to vote in elections?

It's my preference to see all residents be given the opportunity to vote. We are living in a globalised world so I think people should be granted voting rights after two years.

2. What are your views about legislation which would regulate speech or the freedom of assembly?

As John Stuart Mill mentioned in 'Liberty' our civil liberties should not be impeded upon unless we cause harm to others. I don't think speech should be regulated but we need to be considerate of what we say to others.

3. Would you describe yourself as a free speech absolutist or should there be certain limits on free speech?

It's important we hear pluralistic views. I believe in a theory called agonism which essentially means healthy debate is one which is respectful, where parties potentially disagree but each individual can express themselves freely to a point.

4. Currently "religion or belief" is not included in Jersey's equality law as a protected characteristic. Would you be in favour of amending the law to make it illegal to discriminate against anyone because of their religion or belief?

I think it's a good question that will need to be addressed at some point in time.

5. How important is it to you that Jersey maintains the role of the Dean in the States Assembly?

I have no issue with the Dean being in the States Assembly.

6. Are you in favour of maintaining tax-payer support of parish churches?

Churches are the heart of the community so I fully support the financial support that is given to them.

7. Are you aware that current government plans to eliminate marginal tax relief for married people will result in tax burden shifting to poorer Islanders as it lowers taxes for wealthier Islanders? Are you in favour of eliminating marginal tax relief for married people? Would you be in favour of allowing married couples to share their marginal tax relief allowances across a family unit?

This will need to be investigated in the next States Assembly. Essentially, I feel there needs to be an alleviation for lower and middle income earners who are often the hardest hit.

8. What improvements do you think need to be made to improve the mental health and well-being of islanders, particularly young people?

I think the way how we live, the way how our economy has been socially constructed has resulted in disparities between islanders. There is much poverty on this island and I think we need to invest wisely moving forward to provide more timely interventions to assist islanders struggling with their mental health.

9. What would you propose to improve transport links within and to the Island?

I personally feel we need to build more business transport links as well as attracting visitors to the island too. It would be impetuous to propose something without fully researching things prior to implementation.

10. Are you in favour of a raise to the minimum wage or to institute a living wage in Jersey?

Yes I do. I believe in Market Predistribution which essentially means incomes should be distributed within the market place instead of the Government having to prop up low income households.

11. What are your views about how to make housing more affordable in Jersey?

The Government have been poor demonstrating a lack of innovative economic and social policy and now we have seen prices in rental and purchasing terms become beyond so many.

12. Would you be in favour of creating a special category of licensed employee for not-for-profit organisations that would give charities the ability to hire and offer housing to trained charity workers who are not currently resident in Jersey?

I do believe we need a points based immigration system so we need to define entry conditions.

13. Are you in favour of allowing allow Ukrainian nationals without family ties to stay in the island? Would you be in favour of Jersey receiving refugees from other areas of the world where there is a clear humanitarian crisis?

Yes, I feel we should have appropriate legislation so whenever events occur within the international system Jersey can be quick to react to provide refugees with safety.

14. Do you support maintaining a minimum overseas aid budget of .7% of GDP?

I think the budget needs to be proportionate relative to GDP to maintain the assistance of parties overseas.

15. In view of the UK's proposed conversion therapy ban would you be in favour of a similar ban in Jersey? If so, what are the specific practices which would be made illegal?

16. Would you be in favour of expanding abortion provision in Jersey or making abortion more accessible in Jersey?

Yes.

17. Are you in favour of legalising Assisted Suicide in principle in Jersey? If so, what safeguards would you propose creating as a part of any draft legislation put forward in the States assembly?

I do. I feel the proposition lacked depth though when I read it. I feel there needs to be a process to ensure the individual is comfortable with the decision they make.

18. Are you in favour of legalising recreational cannabis use?

For medicinal purposes I do.

19. What is your general view of religion, churches and other faith groups in Jersey? What is your experience with these groups?

I think it's an integral part of our community. I have very little experience with the respective groups.