

St Aubin's Bay Water Quality Workshop

'How can we best protect the water in St Aubin's Bay?'

You are invited to a stakeholder workshop; your opportunity to help us set out future aims for a balanced approach to protecting the ecology of the bay.

When:	18th September 2013
Time:	5.30pm (welcome cold buffet) for a 6pm start. The workshop will finish no later than 9pm.
Place:	Radisson Blu Waterfront Hotel, St Helier



Jersey can be rightly proud of its iconic bays and coastline. They provide enjoyment and recreation to many, from simply 'taking in the view' to a multitude of fishing and water sport activities. Other people work from our beaches, through operating concessions, fishing or shellfish farming activities. The island's coastline also provides valuable habitat for a diverse marine ecology and birds; proof of this is the south-east coast Ramsar site, a place of international importance.

St Aubin's Bay is impacted by our activities. For example, drainage from the town area and the countryside, the discharge of treated waste water from Bellozanne and through harbour activities and land reclamation at La Collette. Because of this, the ecology of St Aubin's Bay needs to be protected and the workshop will consider how best to do this.

The workshop will develop a 'Vision and Objectives' for St Aubin's Bay which will aim to protect the ecology whilst still allowing business and leisure activities to thrive in the bay. The workshop will explore:

- What currently happens in the Bay and what makes it special?
- What is going well and what are current concerns?
- Suggestions for objectives to deliver the vision.

The workshop is organised by the Department of the Environment (Environmental Protection) and will help target their work to provide the best protection of water quality.

If you are able to attend, please contact Charlotte Le Maistre, email: envprotection@gov.je or phone 441691 by 30th August 2013. Please inform us of any special dietary or other needs that you may require.

If you are not able to attend, but are able to nominate someone else from your organisation, please let us know. The invitees are a representative selection of key stakeholders.

■ Why now?

There are a number of reasons that the Department of the Environment is focusing on water quality in the Bay now:

- Regulations, standards and the approach to protect waters are changing locally and throughout Europe.
- Part of this change highlights the importance of:
 - 1) involving and listening to people about what they value and what should be protected.
 - 2) adopting an integrated approach that acknowledges the changes to water flows into the Bay. These include drainage from inland as well as the waste water treatment works at Bellozanne that will shortly require replacement.

■ What is involved?

Attendance is by invitation only. If you accept you will be committing to:

- Familiarising yourself with the challenges in the Bay.
- Sharing knowledge about the current situation and helping to develop a vision and objectives.
- Discussing St Aubin's Bay water quality challenges with your own interest group or organisation.

■ What happens to what you say?

During the workshop, facilitators will record (in writing) the essence of what you say. They won't attribute this to who said it, but it will all be typed up and sent to those who take part. Most importantly, what you say will be used for three main purposes:

1. To establish what is important to you in the Bay- and what you would like see protected.
2. To help develop the vision and objectives for the protection of water quality in St Aubin's Bay
3. To help target resources for action.

It is likely that some things that are discussed fall outside the remit of the workshop. If this happens, the Department undertakes to pass the information on to the relevant people.

■ Who will run the workshop?

The Department of the Environment have asked, [dialogue matters](#) to run the workshops. [Dialogue matters](#) facilitates interactive workshops, knowledge sharing and stakeholder participation. Their role is to be impartial and help people discuss what is important to them.

■ What will the workshop be like?

The workshops will start with short presentations to set the scene. Following this, you will be able to take part in a range of activities that draw out your knowledge, insights and ideas.

Workshops run by [dialogue matters](#) may be a bit different from other meetings you have attended. They are busy, very interactive and encourage full participation. They also feel informal - but are actively facilitated so that everyone has the chance to contribute.

The agenda for the workshop is still being developed but it is likely to include the following type of questions that are focused on the water quality of St Aubin's Bay:

- What is the situation now?
- What objectives are needed?
- What are the priorities?

We look forward to meeting you on 18th September.