

ASCENSION ISLAND COUNCIL
Ascension Island
South Atlantic
ASCN 1ZZ



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Stephen Doughty MP
Minister of State
King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH

07 August 2024

Dear Minister Doughty,

The Ascension Island Council would like to offer our congratulations on your appointment as Minister of State at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office with responsibility for the Overseas Territories.

We were delighted to read your letter of 26 July 2024, noting your intention to strengthen the shared values and deep historical and cultural ties between the Overseas Territories and your government. Your principle of “nothing about you without you”, is of particular importance, indicating a valuable spirit of mutual respect and inclusion.

The Council welcomes your backing towards the Ascension One Island Vision. Collectively, with support from the UK Government, we intend to create an island environment with exceptional opportunities for our islanders. We are proud of our cultural and natural heritage and are conscious of our environmental importance towards achieving UK and global biodiversity targets.

Two members of our Council met with you last November and reported your openness and willingness to discuss important issues with each territory. We are excited to continue those conversations at the JMC later this year and look forward to working with you in the forthcoming years.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Kerry Benjamin

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Councillor Kyla Benjamin

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Councillor Gordon Worthington

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Councillor Alan Nicholls

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Councillor Laura Shearer

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