**Taxation Consultation with the Residents of Sark**

**Responses**

**#771**

**(A) Current Tax System – Score Rating 2 – Disagree**

No comment.

**(B) Personal Capital Tax – Forfait – Score Rating 4 – Agree**

No Comment.

**(C) 91st Day Personal Capital Tax – Score Rating 5 – Strongly Agree**

Is this because some new residents leave before they’ve been here 90 days, and don’t pay tax? Surely, they anyway have to pay PCT every January whether on or off the island, just like everybody else?

**(D) Personal Capital Tax – Score Rating 5 – Strongly Agree**

No comment.

**(E) Seasonal Workers – Score Rating 5 – Strongly Agree**

No comment.

**(F) Personal Capital Tax Related to Duration of Residency on Sark – Score Rating 2 – Disagree**

As long as seasonal/contract workers are not penalised. It’s difficult to judge the best solution here because permanent residents use more amenities for longer and should therefore logically pay more towards them. However, permanent residents seem to be unhappy with very short-term residents for various reasons including that they leave empty (wasted) accommodation that other families could potentially inhabit, and they (one assumes) don’t contribute their time and efforts to the community. This is almost more a debate over ethics than justice. Higher taxes for very short-term residents might help deter people from using Sark solely as a tax haven and not a home (though probably not a deterrent as they have enough money to pay) and would be a helpful addition to the Sark government coffers. It would help to have a register of tax-registered residents (or citizens). Important to have a definition, in law, of a tax resident of Sark – what laws they must comply with and how long they must spend domiciled on the island per annum. How would this be policed without passport stamps? Perhaps a gid idea for the newly arrived to pay a fee to register as tax residents.

**(G) Derelict Houses – Score Rating 5 – Strongly Agree**

No comment.

**(H) Property Transfer Tax – Score Rating 2 – Disagree**

No comment.

**(I) Bed Tax – Score Rating 2 – Disagree**

This would be an administrative nightmare for business owners and tax collectors, how would it be policed? And, food and accommodation are already expensive on Sark; higher prices could deter visitors.

**(J) Plate Tax – Score Rating 2 – Disagree**

As above.

**(K) Ring Fenced Taxation** **– Score Rating 1 – Strongly Disagree**

Without proper knowledge of the budget and workings of government, an average citizen cannot reasonably decide how their tax money should be spent. It could be disastrous, potentially emotion involved and little logic. Ordinary citizens often for the ‘sexy’ option, a cause that seems needy but does not necessarily need more attention. Important services could become neglected due to funds being weighted towards more emotive/personal causes.

**(L) Sark Residency / Tax Residency Approved Scheme – Score Rating 5 – Strongly Agree**

See **(F)** above.