

# Jersey Evening Post

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# My breast cancer battle

## Deputy speaks out to help others



'Cancer touches everyone's life'

Deputy Kristina Moore, who was diagnosed with breast cancer four weeks ago. Picture: ROB CURRIE (01517631)

A STATES Deputy has taken the brave decision to speak out about her battle against cancer to help give others strength to fight the disease.

Deputy Kristina Moore was diagnosed with breast cancer four weeks ago and is undergoing an intense course of treatment.

By Diane Simon  
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The 38-year-old former Channel TV presenter, who has two young sons, says she has decided to talk about her experience because she wants to raise awareness about breast cancer

and the importance of seeking medical advice as soon as possible.

It all started off with Deputy Moore feeling a little tired – but no more than a very busy wife, mother and politician might expect from time to time.

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## States Members get yet another pay rise

By political correspondent  
Lucy Stephenson

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A DAY after it was announced that public sector workers are to receive a pay rise, States Members have paved the way for their own increase.

Yesterday, they overwhelmingly voted not to lift the rules of the Assembly which prevent them from debating their own remuneration.

As a result their pay will automatically go up £600 – or 1.4% – from January.

It follows an announcement this week that all States workers are to receive a 4% increase next year following months of negotiations with unions.

In a repeat of a similar debate in January, Members voted 43 to one not to lift the standing order that prevents them from considering matters in which they have a direct finan-

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## Child abuse law change?



Those who fail to report suspicions may be jailed

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# Guernsey tight-lipped on fate of civil servant

MINISTERS in Guernsey have refused to confirm whether a senior civil servant who punched a police officer at a Jersey conference will be sacked.

The island's Policy Council has not been drawn on what action might be taken against its chief economist, Dr Andy Sloan, after his appearance in Jersey's Magistrate's Court on Monday.

The 44-year-old became angry and abusive towards hotel staff when they asked him to sign for his drink bill and questioned why it was not being paid for with taxpayers' money.

When the police intervened, he punched an officer in the face.

The civil servant was sentenced to 70 hours' community service and fined £500 for what Magistrate Bridget Shaw described as a 'disgraceful incident' at the Hotel L'Horizon, in St Brelade's Bay, on Thursday last week.

## Ministers not drawn on action against adviser who punched Jersey police officer

Sloan pleaded guilty to being disorderly on licensed premises and assaulting an officer.

While the Policy Council refused to say what action could be taken against Sloan, it said in a statement that when an allegation about an employee's conduct was made, the States would investigate to see whether there was a case to answer.



Dr Andy Sloan outside Jersey's Magistrate's Court after being sentenced on Monday

# Deputy's battle against cancer

(Cont from page 1)

'Then she had a twinge in the breast area and thought she might have strained a muscle. When I touched my left breast it felt engorged, as if milk was coming, and it felt hard all over. I thought that was really odd and felt a little worried about it,' she said.

**Making a swift appointment with her GP, she was advised that she should see a specialist and that there was a new general surgeon and oncoplastic breast specialist at the hospital.**

### Biopsy

She had a mammogram and ultrasound scan and a biopsy was taken.

'I realised that something could be up because I saw the radiologist appearing to measure something that looked like a lump on the image during the mammogram,' she said.

Nevertheless, she went off to the UK for a half-term break with her husband James and young sons Edward and Gwilym.

Halfway through that week, though, she returned to the Island for the test results.

**At that time, she did not tell anyone about her concern other than her husband, who went with her to see breast specialist Matthew Stephenson.**

**'He was quite straight, which I thought was good. He told me very calmly and kindly that there was a grade three tumour in my left breast which had spread to the lymph**

**nodes there,' she said.**

That tumour was of a reasonable size of over 5 cm and quite fast-growing.

'It was a blow because, obviously, I had hoped that it would be nothing,' she said.

Deputy Moore said that she was told by him that there were positive signs because of the type of cells in the tumour and how they were growing, and that the drug Herceptin would be appropriate for her.

Initially it was thought that she would be given chemotherapy first to reduce the size of the tumour and then have surgery later.

However, it was then agreed that immediate surgery was the best way forward, as there was a chance that chemotherapy might not reduce the tumour, which could continue growing.

**A fortnight ago, Mr Stephenson carried out a mastectomy of the left breast and removed the lymph nodes that side.**

**'I stayed overnight in the General Hospital and everyone was amazingly kind and kept me informed about everything,' she said.**

The good news awaiting her was that it had been possible to take out all of the tumour.

'I'm only a little sore, and the wound where the stitches are is healing quite well,' she said.

Feeling tired, she must be careful not to lift anything heavy that would strain the stitches.

'I'm eating healthy things and drinking juice to boost my immune system,' she said.

Deciding to be completely straight with her sons, she told Gwilym that mummy had to have one of her boobies taken away and a new one would be added later.

'Gwilym must have given it some thought, because he told me that he was so very sorry to hear what I was having done, and then I envisaged him telling everyone at school about it and so I explained to close friends what was happening,' she said.

She has seen oncologist Charles Hamilton and been told that following a course of chemotherapy in the Island she will be going to Southampton for radiology.

### Absolute confidence

**'I am fit and young and have things going for me, and so I just have to get through it. I have faith in those treating me and Mr Stephenson has my absolute confidence,' she added.**

Asked why she had decided to go public about her illness, she said that cancer was such a prevalent disease which had affected her at the age of 38, which was relatively young.

'I thought that it was very important to talk openly about it so that other women would be aware of their bodies and seek early advice from a GP if there were any changes in it,' she said.

'Cancer touches everyone's life in some way, and if I can be useful in that respect, then that is what I want to do,' she added.

# States Members' pay rise on the way

(Cont from page 1)

The vote was the clearest message to date that politicians do not think they should get involved in discussions about their pay.

As a result, a debate about the rise as proposed by an independent board that advises on States pay could not go ahead. Instead, the pay rise will automatically come into force in January and the salary of a States Member will rise to £42,600. It is the third consecutive rise for Members since pay was frozen in 2010, albeit the lowest so far.

St John Constable Phil Rondel - who had brought a proposition asking for the rise to

be scrapped because of the current economic climate and therefore asked for the rules to be lifted to allow that request to be considered - was the only Member to vote in favour of standing orders being lifted.

### Standing orders

Earlier this year Members voted 31 to 16 not to lift standing orders to debate a similar proposition from St Saviour Constable Sadie Rennard. As a result their pay went up £818, or 1.8 per cent.

However, many Members did not take the rise and some had not taken previous rises.

Others donated the extra money to charity. During the brief debate yesterday, Senator Lyndon Farnham said: 'We are all at liberty to decline any increases in Members' remuneration that are offered to us, and I really think that before we sink any lower in reputation on these sort of issues we shouldn't be spending our time discussing this.'

Deputy Geoff Southern also echoed that plea, as did Senator Philip Ozouf, who said that lifting standing orders to consider the matter would be divisive and unfair and pit the more financially well-off Members against the rest of the House who needed the pay rise.

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