

Council of Ministers

(27th Meeting)

(Business conducted via electronic mail)17th March 2023**Part A (Non-Exempt)**

All members were present, with the exception of Deputies K.L. Moore of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter, Chief Minister, C.F. Labey of Grouville and St. Martin, Minister for International Development, K.F. Morel of St. John, St. Lawrence and Trinity, Minister for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture, P.F.C. Ozouf of St. Saviour, Minister for External Relations and Financial Services, D.J. Warr of St. Helier South, Minister for Housing and Communities and K.M. Wilson of St. Clement, Minister for Health and Social Services, from whom apologies had been received.

Deputy I. Gardiner of St. Helier North, Minister for Children and Education
Deputy I.J. Gorst of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter, Minister for Treasury and Resources

Deputy H.M. Miles of St. Brelade, Minister for Home Affairs

Deputy J. Renouf of St. Brelade, Minister for the Environment

Deputy M.E. Millar of St. John, St. Lawrence and Trinity, Minister for Social Security

Deputy T.J.A. Binet of St. Saviour, Minister for Infrastructure

In attendance -

P. Bradbury, Head of Ministerial Office

K.L. Slack, Clerk to the Council of Ministers

Note: The Minutes of this meeting comprise Part A only

Development
of Town
Masterplan
(P.9/2023).

A1. The Council of Ministers, with reference to Minute No. A2 of its meeting of 14th March 2023, recalled that it had decided to present Comments on the Proposition of Connétable A.S. Crowcroft of St. Helier, entitled 'Development of Town Masterplan' (P.9/2023 referred) and the Amendments to the Proposition of Deputies S.Y. Mézec of St. Helier South and A.F. Curtis of St. Clement.

The Council accordingly received and noted draft Comments, which clarified the need for new homes, open spaces and public infrastructure, but cautioned against delays, noting that there was flexibility within the current outline planning application by the States of Jersey Development Company ('SOJDC') for South West St. Helier ('SWSH'). That development would result in the investment of £148 million in public infrastructure, including public open spaces, arts and culture facilities and potentially a landmark civic building. It would not be appropriate to sacrifice the foregoing for increased housing and commercial units.

The Council provided an undertaking to work with the SOJDC and elected representatives to ensure that there was the right blend in SWSH and that amenities (including a pool, cinema and art and sports facilities) were located appropriately.

As part of the wider approach towards Town, walking, cycling bus and parking strategies would be finalised. In conjunction with other Members of the States, Deputy J. Renouf of St. Brelade, Minister for the Environment, would develop a strategic 'plan for Town' over the foregoing 12 to 24 months, which would direct attention towards making life in an urban setting enjoyable, including arts facilities, public realm, walking and cycling routes and retail and leisure. This would support the ongoing work on SWSH and would involve meaningful consultation.

The FPMG, of which the Connétable of St. Helier was a member, in tandem with the SOJDC, would ensure that £3 million of additional funding *per annum* was allocated over the next 5 years for urban regeneration projects and improved walking and cycling routes in the north of Town. This would be funded by reallocating some of the investment gains from the SWSH development once they had been realised.

The Comments requested Members to reject parts (a) and (c) of the Proposition and both Amendments. The Council approved the Comments and instructed the Head of Ministerial Office to arrange for them to be presented to the States Assembly. Mindful that the Council had wished to conclude deliberations and discuss the Comments with the Connétable of St. Helier, the deadline for presentation had been exceeded and a statement under Standing Order 37A was to be appended thereto.