

Migration Policy Development Board



Migration Policy Development Board (the 'Board' or the 'MPDB') Final Meeting
Thursday 6th February 2020, 14.00 – 16:00

Board:

Deputy Rowland Huelin (RH) – Chair (acting)
Minister for the Environment, Deputy John Young (JY)
Connétable Christopher Taylor (CT)
Murray Norton – Jersey Chamber of Commerce (MN)

Apologies

Minister for Social Security, Deputy Judy Martin (JM) - Chair
Senator Sarah Ferguson (SF)
Dr Michael Oliver (MO)
John Shenton – Jersey Chamber of Commerce (JS)

Executive Support:

Sue Duhamel – Head of Policy (SD)
Neil Stocks – Senior Policy Officer (NS)
Matthew Viney – Senior Policy Officer (MV)
Jade Le Quesne – Policy Assistant (JLQ)

1. Welcome and apologies

1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1.2 Apologies were noted from JM, SF MO and JS.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

2.1 The minutes were discussed, agreed by the Board and signed by the acting Chair.

3. AOB

3.1 Board members requested that it be noted that the role of the Board was to recommend to the Chief Minister ways in which migration controls could be improved. This is a diverse area with many elements that cut across several areas of Government policy. Members may therefore have differing views of a how a population policy itself may look. They are therefore not beholden to all aspects of the Boards final report regarding migration controls, which will likely be discussed and debated in more detail as this work moved forward.

3.2 NS passed on the thanks of the Chief Minister to all Board members for their work and time commitment to the Board and assistance in in preparing its final report of recommendations.

3.3 The Chair extended his thanks to the Board and in particular the hard work of the lay board members and to the officers who had supported the work of the Board over the past year.

3.4 It was agreed that a record of this meeting would be circulated and confirmed via email, and that the minutes of the previous meeting and this would be published on the MPDB's web page.

3.5 The Board agreed it dissolution at this point.

3.6 The Board being officially dissolved, the Chair closed the meeting at 14:45.

Minutes agreed

Chairman:

Agreed via email

Date:

07/02/20

Agreement for publication

Chairman:

Publication agreed at meeting

Date:

06/02/20

Following the dissolution of the Board JY and MN wished the following views to be noted:

JY felt that it was important to note the desire to control net inward migration within the original terms of reference and what the impact of not doing this would have on the environment. JY felt that any new controls should be linked to the living wage, and that preference should be given to those employers who adopt this. That the government should aim to develop a selective preference for particular industries, in order to limit the open ended escalation of marginal enterprises presently paying below the living wage. JY stated that the island will need to give the equivalent of the UK "special visa" to health and education workers to reduce the barriers for filling essential public service posts.

MN wished to express, on behalf of the Jersey Chamber of Commerce, the concerns and strength of feeling from within its Membership, with regard to any further restrictions that may impede business operation. Currently businesses are experiencing real challenges in relation to the ability to recruit and keep staff. These concerns are against a backdrop of ever-increasing costs of operating in the island which are in part due to increased Government led regulations and taxes. The economy, which is driven by business, is holding its collective breath regarding the outcomes of these recommendations. We would urge that the Chief Minister and Council of Ministers resist any temptation to put forward any policies that would place more hurdles in the way of the economy and damage the confidence of businesses to invest in and remain in Jersey.

Chamber is however grateful for the opportunity to have engaged from a seat on the Migration Policy Development Board and hopes that the Report is used as a stepping stone to create certainty, economic growth and reinstall the vibrancy into the island that years of indecision over migration has created. Chamber reserves its right to disagree with some of these recommendations and will engage robustly concerning any policies brought forward that negatively affect commerce in the island.

Register of Actions from previous meetings

	No.	Action required	Allocated to	Required by	Date completed
Meeting 1 07/03/19	1	Invite 3 x lay members	NS	15/03/19	08/03/19
Meeting 1	2	Invite 1 x backbencher	NS	15/03/19	11/03/19
Meeting 2 21/03/19	3	Arrange for Andrew bannister to return for next meeting	NS	04/04/19	26/03/19
Meeting 2	4	Circulate FPP Report to the Board	NS	04/04/19	02/04/19
Meeting 3 04/04/19	5	Revise previous minutes	NS	18/04/19	12/04/19
Meeting 3	6	Circulate papers to the Board	MV	18/04/19	04/04/19
Meeting 4 18/04/19	7	Advice on the feasibility of statistical modelling of the net cost (per individual) of migration	Statistics Jersey/Economics Unit	13/05/19	11/07/19
Meeting 4	8	Circulate dependency ratio report	NS/MV	25/04/19	04/04/19
Meeting 4	9	Circulation of Birth and School attendance statistics	Statistics Jersey/NS/MV	13/05/19	21/05/19
Meeting 4	10	Circulation of average earnings report	NS/MV	25/04/19	07/05/19
Meeting 4	11	Resend EGRESS email to RH	NS	25/04/19	23/04/19
Meeting 4	12	Circulation of paper on migration / population in other jurisdictions	NS	13/05/19	07/05/19
Meeting 5	13	Circulate Guernsey Work Permit Category Paper.	NS	30/05/19	22/05/19
Meeting 6	14	Produce discussion paper from points raised in this meeting.	NS	13/06/19	10/06/19

Meeting 7	15	Officers to analyse the underlying data and provide feedback in the meeting's discussion paper.	NS	27/06/19	20/08/19
Meeting 7	16	Presentation to be circulated. Invite to consultation event to be sent to members.	NS/MV	27/06/19	26/06/19
Meeting 7	17	Discussion paper to be prepared.	NS	27/06/19	20/08/19
Meeting 7	18	Officers to provide stats relating to net nil migration.	NS	27/06/19	27/06/19
Meeting 8	19	NS to arrange circulation and publishing of the presentations on the Policy Board website.	NS	11/07/19	28/06/19
Meeting 9	20	Policy discussion paper to be prepared.	NS	19/09/19	
Meeting 10	21	Revised Skills paper to be circulated to the Board.	NS	19/09/19	17/09/19
Meeting 10	22	Pension Fund vs Migration Statistics to be supplied	NS/SD	19/09/19	18/09/19
Meeting 10	23	Officers to clarify situation in relation to HAWAG licences.	NS	19/09/19	17/09/19
Meeting 11	24	Circulate the slides from the COM presentation to all members for review.	NS/SD	03/10/19	09/10/19
Meeting 11	25	Circulate revised consultation document.	NS/SD	03/10/19	30/09/19
Meeting 11	26	Request LOD support for the Board.	SD	03/10/19	27/09/19
Meeting 11	27	Arrange COMMS support for the Board	NS	03/10/19	09/10/19

Meeting 11	28	Create timetable of meetings and invite stakeholders.	NS	03/10/19	30/10/19
Meeting 12	29	Consultation notes to be circulated to Jersey Finance and Caritas	MV/NS	14/10/19	12/11/19
Meeting 13	30	Publish interim paper and skills paper	NS	24/10/19	24/10/19
Meeting 13	31	Consultation notes to be circulated to Agriculture representatives	NS	01/11/19	12/11/19
Meeting 13	32	Consultation notes to be circulated to JEC	NS	01/11/19	12/11/19
Meeting 13	33	Research BLOG for public responses	NS	01/11/19	24/10/19 – web address set up for feedback.
Meeting 14	34	Consultation notes to be circulated to Citizen's Advice Bureau, Jersey Water and National Trust. (Children's Commissioner made submission after meeting confirming points made).	NS	06/12/19	29/11/19