

IC/SC/023

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

(6th Meeting)

12th January 2012**PART A**

All members were present, with the exception of: Senator I.J. Gorst, Chief Minister; Senator P.F.C. Ozouf, Minister for Treasury and Resources; Senator L.J. Farnham, Assistant Minister for Home Affairs; Deputy A.K.F. Green, M.B.E, Minister for Housing, and Deputy P.J.D. Ryan, Minister for Education, Sport and Culture, from whom apologies had been received.

Senator B.I. Le Marquand, Deputy Chief Minister
 Senator A.J.H. Maclean, Minister for Economic Development
 Senator F. du H. Le Gresley, M.B.E., Minister for Social Security
 Connétable J.M. Refault, Assistant Minister for Housing
 Deputy R.C. Duhamel, Minister for Planning and Environment
 Deputy R.G. Le Hérissier, Assistant Minister for Education, Sport and Culture
 Deputy A.E. Pryke, Minister for Health and Social Services
 Deputy K.C. Lewis, Minister for Transport and Technical Services
 Deputy E.J. Noel, Assistant Minister for Treasury and Resources

In attendance -

Senator P.F. Routier, Assistant Chief Minister
 Connétable J. Le S. Gallichan, Chairman, Comité des Connétables
 J. Richardson, Interim Chief Executive, States of Jersey
 T.J. Le Cocq, Q.C., H.M. Attorney General
 C. Keir, Communications Manager
 J. Marshall, Head of Strategic Planning (for item A1)
 T. Murphy, Research and Policy Officer
 A.H. Harris, Deputy Greffier of the States
 I. Clarkson, Clerk to the Council of Ministers

Note: The Minutes of this meeting comprise Part A and Part B.

Strategic Plan:
 draft green
 paper.
 1444/1(61)

A1. The Council, with reference to its Minute No. B8 of 15th December 2011, recalled that it had approved a broad outline for its Strategic Plan green paper and, in particular, its draft vision and priorities for inclusion within the document.

The Council, with the Head of Strategic Planning and the Communications Manager in attendance, considered a draft green paper dated 16th January 2012 and which was entitled: 'Strategic Plan Consultation.'

The Council recalled that Ministers had received an earlier draft of the green paper several days previously, together with a supplementary paper entitled: 'Analysis of Key Strategic Issues.' It observed that both the document as tabled and the supplementary analysis paper contained a series of proposed refinements, which had been devised following an initial review of the same by the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister.

During its review of the draft green paper and the supplementary analysis paper, the Council made a limited number of changes to the format and wording of each document –

- (a) to better reflect the intended focus on the key high-level policy issues to be addressed during the Council's term of office;
- (b) to further clarify the favoured position of the Council on certain of those key issues;
- (c) to clarify both the extent of available data on the size and make-up of the Island's resident population and the fact that work was underway to further refine this data through the creation of a new population model;
- (d) to provide further detail regarding the proactive measures to be taken to ensure that the public consultation would be effective; and
- (e) to further improve the readability of the document.

Ministers acknowledged that the availability of resources and its 3 year term of office had inevitably constrained the scope of the new Strategic Plan. For example, it was readily accepted that mental health legislation was in need of reform; however, the magnitude of that project and the extent of the other major challenges facing the Health and Social Services Department were such that it was considered more realistic to anticipate completion of that work after 2014.

The Council delegated to the Chief Minister, or in his absence the Deputy Chief Minister, the necessary authority to approve the finalised draft of the green paper and supplementary analysis paper for presentation to the States on Monday 16th January 2012.

The Head of Strategic Planning was authorised to take the necessary action, having been warmly thanked by the Council for her effective coordination of the Strategic Plan development process.

Care
Inspectorate:
inspection of
services for
looked after
children:
report.
1064/3/1(6)

A2. The Council considered a briefing note entitled: 'Care Inspectorate: Inspection of Services for Looked After Children.'

The Council noted that the Children's Policy Group had commissioned the Care Inspectorate of Scotland to conduct an independent inspection of services for looked after children in Jersey. This inspection had been commissioned in response to a recommendation made by Professor A. Williamson in his 2008 report to the Council of Ministers and it had been progressed during 2010 and 2011.

It was clarified that the inspection had focussed on services provided –

- (a) to children in children's homes, therapeutic units, foster care and Greenfields secure unit, and
- (b) to young people leaving care.

The Council noted that the final report and a related service improvement plan produced by the Children's Policy Group would be published on 24th January 2012.

States
business.
1240/7/1(1)

A3. The Council, with reference to its Minute No. A2 of 15th December 2011, gave further consideration to the list of public business scheduled for consideration by the States Assembly at the meetings commencing on 17th and 31st January 2012. Particular consideration was given to the propositions listed below.

Electoral campaign period: restrictions (P.174/2011)

The Council noted the comment of the Privileges and Procedures Committee and agreed that the subject matter of the proposition was not one on which it would seek to form a collective view.

Minimum Wage: revised hourly rate from 1st April 2012 (P.183/2011)

Having recalled its endorsement of the comment presented by the Minister for Social Security, the Council approved a brief comment confirming its support of that Minister's stance on the matter.

Draft Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement – Convention Countries) (Amendment) (Jersey) Act 201- (P.184/2011)

The Council noted and endorsed the proposition.

Health Insurance Fund: transfer to Health and Social Services Department for 2012 (P.185/2011)

The Council approved a comment confirming its support for the proposition. It further noted that the question of primary care funding for 2013 and beyond would be considered during formulation of the Medium Term Financial Plan.

Machinery of Government: review by the Privileges and Procedures Committee (P.187/2011)

The Council noted the comment of the Privileges and Procedures Committee and agreed that the subject matter of the proposition was not one on which it would seek to form a collective view.

Open ballot for Ministers and Chairmen (P.188/2011)

The Council noted the comment of the Privileges and Procedures Committee and agreed that the subject matter of the proposition was not one on which it would seek to form a collective view.

Planning Applications Panel: appointment of members (P.189/2011)

The Council endorsed the proposition. It further noted the intention of the Minister for Planning and Environment to require that the reconstituted Planning Applications Panel formally adopt in early course a suitably robust code of conduct governing its consideration of planning applications. This code, which would be circulated to all States Members, would complement the code of conduct already adopted by the Minister for Planning and Environment with regard to his personal role in the planning application process (Ministerial Decision MD-PE-2011-120 refers).

Jersey Employment Tribunal: appointment of Members (P.190/2011)

The Council endorsed the proposition.

Jersey Police Complaints Authority: appointment of Member (P.191/2011)

The Council endorsed the proposition.

Draft Policing of Beaches (Amendment No. 10) (Jersey) Regulations 201- (P.192/2011)

The Council endorsed the proposition.

Jersey Financial Services Commission: re-appointment of Commissioner (P.193/2011)

The Council endorsed the proposition.

Jersey Overseas Aid Commission: re-appointment of Non-States Commissioner (P.194/2011)

The Council endorsed the proposition.

Draft States of Jersey (Transfer of Functions No. 5) (Economic Development to Chief Minister) (Jersey) Regulations 201- (P.196/2011)

The Council endorsed the proposition.

Draft Civil Aviation (Amendment of Law) (Jersey) Regulations 201-(P.197/2011)

The Council endorsed the proposition.

Committee of Inquiry: payments on premature cessation of employment contracts (P.2/2012)

The Council resolved to consider the proposition in detail at a subsequent meeting.

Deputy K.C. Lewis was not present during the Council's consideration of Projets Nos. P.187/2011 – P.2/2012 inclusive.

Deputy R.C. Duhamel was not present during the Council's consideration of Projets Nos. P.187/2011, P.188/2011 and P.190/2011 – P.2/2012 inclusive.