

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

(28th Meeting)

17th December 2009PART A

All members were present, with the exception of Senator F.E. Cohen, Minister for Planning and Environment, from whom apologies had been received.

Senator T.A. Le Sueur, Chief Minister  
 Senator P.F.C. Ozouf, Minister for Treasury and Resources  
 Senator T.J. Le Main, Minister for Housing  
 Deputy A.E. Pryke, Minister for Health and Social Services  
 Senator A.J.H. Maclean, Minister for Economic Development  
 Senator B.I. Le Marquand, Minister for Home Affairs  
 Connétable M.K. Jackson of St. Brelade, Minister for Transport and Technical Services  
 Deputy R.C. Duhamel, Assistant Minister for Planning and Environment  
 Deputy J.G. Reed, Minister for Education, Sport and Culture  
 Deputy I.J. Gorst, Minister for Social Security

In attendance -

Connétable K.P. Vibert, Chairman, Comité des Connétables  
 W.D. Ogley, Chief Executive, States of Jersey  
 G.C. Powell, C.B.E., Adviser - International Affairs (for item B1)  
 S. Austin-Vautier, Chief Officer, Home Affairs Department (for item B2)  
 P. Brown, Deputy Chief Fire Officer, States of Jersey Fire and Rescue Service (for item B2)  
 T. Murphy, Policy and Research Officer  
 M.N. de la Haye, Greffier of the States  
 I. Clarkson, Clerk to the Council of Ministers

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

Minutes. A1. The Minutes of the meetings held on 12th November (Parts A and B), 17th November (Part A only) and 26th November 2009 (Parts A and B), having been circulated previously, were taken as read and were confirmed.

States business. 1240/7/1(1) A2. The Council reviewed the list of public business scheduled for consideration by the States Assembly during the First Session of 2010. Particular consideration was given to the following –

- (a) **Plémont Holiday Village: acquisition by the Public (P.144/2009)** – the Council formed the view that determination of the existing planning application would effectively resolve the question of the value of the Plémont site, which would in turn allow the States to reach an informed decision in respect of P.144/2009. On that basis the Council agreed that it would defer commenting on the proposition and instead await further developments;
- (b) **‘User Pays’ Charges: States of Jersey Police (P.176/2009)** – the Council invited the Minister for Home Affairs to seek a meeting with

the Comité des Connétables and the Deputy of St. Martin to discuss the full implications of the proposition and of the amendment lodged by the Deputy of St. Martin;

- (c) **Fort Regent: establishment of a working group (P.188/2009) and Strategy for dealing with young offenders: establishment of Working Group (P.201/2009)** – the Council concluded that a decision to constitute both working groups in the manner proposed would weaken Ministerial accountability and, in the case of P.201/2009, the responsibilities and accountability of the existing Children’s Policy Group; accordingly it delegated authority to the Chief Minister to approve and lodge ‘*au Greffe*’ amendments to both propositions;
- (d) **‘User Pays’ Charges: Immigration fees (P.193/2009)** – the Council endorsed the proposition ;
- (e) **Draft Employment of States of Jersey Employees (Amendment No. 4) (Jersey) Regulations 200- (P.198/2009)** – the Council endorsed the proposition; and
- (f) **Draft Public Holidays and Bank Holidays (Jersey) Act 200- (P.193/2009)** – the Council endorsed the proposition.

Budget  
Statement  
2010.  
447/1/1/4(3)

A3. The Council, with reference to its Minute No. A8 of 26th November 2009, recalled that on 10th December 2010 the States Assembly had approved the Budget Statement 2010 (P.179/2009 refers), albeit that the 2nd Amendment lodged ‘*au Greffe*’ by Deputy S.S.P.A. Power of St. Brelade had been adopted.

The Council acknowledged that the removal of the proposed increases in impôts duty on alcohol, tobacco and fuel estimate of total taxation revenue in 2010 would decrease revenues by £4.25 million. In turn this would exacerbate the predicted structural deficit facing the States in the medium term.

**The Council noted the position and resolved to consider options to address the predicted structural deficit during 2010.**

Season’s  
greetings.

A4. The Chief Minister, mindful that this was the Council’s last meeting of 2009, warmly thanked Ministers for the support they had given throughout the year and wished them a very Merry Christmas and New Year. Senator P.F.C. Ozouf thanked the Chief Minister for his considered leadership and consensual approach.

The Council expressed its appreciation to the Chief Executive, to H.M. Attorney General and the Law Officers’ Department, to all Chief Officers and their respective departments, and to the Greffier of the States and his staff for their continued support.