

PM/SC/062

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

(65th Meeting)

11th January 2017**PART A (Non-exempt)**

All members were present, with the exception of Deputy S.G. Luce of St. Martin, Minister for the Environment and Deputy K.L. Moore of St. Peter, Minister for Home Affairs, from whom apologies for absence had been received.

Senator I.J. Gorst, Chief Minister
 Senator L.J. Farnham, Minister for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture (not present for items A1 and A3)
 Deputy R.G. Bryans of St. Helier, Minister for Education (not present for items A1-A3)
 Senator Sir P.M. Bailhache, Minister for External Relations (not present for items A1-A3)
 Senator A.K.F. Green, M.B.E., Minister for Health and Social Services
 Deputy A.E. Pryke of Trinity, Minister for Housing
 Deputy E.J. Noel of St. Lawrence, Minister for Infrastructure
 Deputy S.J. Pinel of St. Clement, Minister for Social Security
 Senator A.J.H. Maclean, Minister for Treasury and Resources

In attendance -

Senator P.F. Routier, M.B.E., Assistant Chief Minister
 Senator P.F.C. Ozouf, Assistant Chief Minister
 Connétable J. Gallichan of St. Mary, member, States Employment Board (for items B1-B3)
 Connétable M.P.S. Le Troquer of St. Martin, member, States Employment Board (for items B1-B3)
 Deputy M.J. Norton of St. Brelade, Assistant Minister for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture
 J.D. Richardson, Chief Executive, States of Jersey
 Dr. M. Egan, Greffier of the States
 R.J. MacRae, Q.C., H.M. Attorney General
 B. Shears, Non-executive Director and Adviser to the States Employment Board (for items B1-B3)
 C. Stephenson, Director HR Employment Relations and Organisational Development, Human Resources (for items B1-B3)
 M. Littler, Senior Employment Relations Manager, Human Resources (for items B1-B3)
 H. Gray, Manager Reward, Workforce Planning and Performance, Human Resources (for items B1 and B2)
 R. Bell, Treasurer of the States (for items B1 and B2)
 P. Bradbury, Director – Corporate Policy, Chief Minister’s Department
 D. Scott, Assistant Director, Department of Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture (for item B4)
 S. Le Sueur, Operations Director, Social Security Department (for item B4)
 C. Keir, Assistant Director - Ministerial Support and Communications (not present for items B1 and B2)
 P. Monamy, 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 7th December (Part A and Part B) and 14th December 2016 (Part B only), having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

States business 17.01.2017. 1240/7/1(1) A2. The Council, with reference to its Minute No. A2 of 7th December 2016, and with the Director – Corporate Policy, Chief Minister’s Department in attendance, noted the list of public business scheduled for consideration by the States Assembly on 17th January 2017 and commented specifically on the undermentioned items:

Vote of No Confidence: States Employment Board (P.137/2016)
[Deferred to 31st January 2017 - Minute No. B3 of this meeting refers].

Draft Employment of States of Jersey Employees (Amendment No. 8) (Jersey) Regulations 201- (P.105/2016) and Amendment

The Council noted that the States Employment Board had lodged ‘au Greffe’ an Amendment to the draft Regulations which sought to reflect simplified Jersey Appointments Commission processes, to provide greater clarity to the Commission’s role and to clarify the approach to be taken with regard to Crown appointments. The Chief Minister, in his capacity as Chairman of the States Employment Board, indicated his intention of considering the matter further, with the possibility that consideration by the States Assembly would be deferred to a later meeting.

Ann Alice Rayner Fund: alteration of purpose (P.116/2016) and Amendment
The Council supported the proposition.

Television Licence Fee: exemption for Jersey residents aged 75 and over (P.117/2016)

The Council, having noted that negotiations had been successfully concluded with the BBC so as to ensure the continued provision of broadcasting services to Jersey, approved the basis of its comment to be presented to the States.

Draft Opticians (Registration) (Amendment No. 2) (Jersey) Law 201- (P.120/2016) and Amendment

The Council supported the draft Law.

Jersey Overseas Aid Commission: re-appointment of Commissioner (P.121/2016)

The Council supported the proposition.

Funding for Family Nursing and Home Care services – petition (P.122/2016)
The Council supported the proposition.

Draft Public Elections (Amendment No. 7) (Jersey) Law 201- (P.124/2016)

The Council recalled that the draft Law, promoted by the Privileges and Procedures Committee, sought to enfranchise convicted prisoners who were registered to vote if they were serving sentences of 4 years or less. It was noted that prisoners sentenced for more than 4 years would remain disenfranchised, as would prisoners on the run. Ministers were granted a free vote on the proposition.

Draft Public Elections (Amendment No. 8) (Jersey) Law 201- (P.125/2016)

The Council noted that all the changes proposed were considered to be acceptable

65th Meeting
11.01.17

and likely to result in an improvement to the electoral process. Ministers were granted a free vote on the proposition.

Draft Amendment (No. 30) of the Standing Orders of the States of Jersey
(P.126/2016)

The Council supported the draft Amendment.

Taxation of High Value Residents (P.127/2016)

The Council noted that a comment was to be presented to the States Assembly by the Minister for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture.

Draft Sea Fisheries (Amendment No. 3) (Jersey) Law 201- (P.128/2016)

The Council supported the draft Law.

Draft Animal Health (Jersey) Law 2016 (Appointed Day) Act 201- (P.129/2016)

The Council supported the draft Law.

Future Hospital Funding Strategy (P.130/2016) and Amendment

The Council noted that the Health and Social Security Scrutiny Sub-Panel had now completed its review of the 'Future Hospital Project' and had published its Report (S.R.7/2016). It was further noted that the Connétable of John had lodged 'au Greffe' an Amendment to P.130/2016 which sought to amend the proposition so as "*to tighten up the fiscal control over the finance available for the building of the new Jersey General Hospital.*" The Treasurer of the States reported that discussions were taking place with the Connétable regarding the rationale for his amendments and whether his intentions might be able to be fulfilled by other means. In the event, it had been agreed that the Minister for Treasury and Resources would proceed with an Amendment to the Connétable's Amendment in order to clarify his proposals in a number of respects.

Draft Animal Health (Consequential Amendments) (Jersey) Regulations 201-
(P131/2016)

The Council supported the draft Regulations.

Draft Prison (Independent Prison Monitoring Board) (Jersey) Regulations 201-
(P.132/2016)

The Council supported the draft Regulations.

States of Jersey Law 2005: proposed amendment – States Members' qualifications for election (P.138/2016)

The Council recognised that the proposition related to a matter which was primarily for the consideration of the Privileges and Procedures Committee. In the event that the Comité des Connétables did not present a comment to the States Assembly, H.M. Attorney General indicated that the Law Officers' Department would consider preparing a comment.

Forthcoming
announcements.

A3. The Council, with reference to its Minute No. A3 of 7th December 2016, discussed with the Director – Corporate Policy, Chief Minister's Department a schedule of forthcoming announcements and communications.

The Council noted the following –

- (a) a Report by the Government Actuary on the financial condition of the Social Security Fund as at 31st December 2015 was to be published during the week commencing 16th January 2017;

- (b) a Disability Strategy Consultation was to be launched on 12th January 2017;
- (c) a Report on the Jersey Innovation Fund was due to be published imminently by the Comptroller and Auditor General;
- (d) a Feasibility Study on a Community Infrastructure Levy was due to be issued shortly;
- (e) consultation on the planning application for the new Les Quennevais School would be undertaken shortly;
- (f) a statement on a revised Travel Policy for those patients needing to visit hospitals in the United Kingdom was to be made shortly by the Minister for Health and Social Services;
- (g) in conjunction with the above, the Minister for Health and Social Services indicated his intention of commenting also on Organ Donation Registration;
- (h) the new Household Recycling Centre at La Collette was due to open on Monday 16th January 2017;
- (i) the Treasurer of the States outlined proposals to mirror in the Island the proposals of the United Kingdom regarding the de-monitisation of the £1 coin from September 2017, noting that there was currently no plan to replace the current Jersey coin, although the matter would be kept under review. The new U.K. £1 coin would be legal tender in Jersey.