

Migration Policy Development Board



Migration Policy Development Board (the 'Board' or the 'MPDB') Meeting 8
Thursday 27th June 2019, 11.00 – 13:00

Board:

Assistant Chief Minister, Connétable Christopher Taylor (CT) (Chair)
Minister for Social Security, Deputy Judy Martin (JM)
Senator Sarah Ferguson (SF)
John Shenton (JS)
Deputy Gregory Guida – Assistant Minister for the Environment (GG) – Attending in place of JY.

Executive Support:

Neil Stocks – Policy Principal, Immigration & Migration Policy (NS)
Matthew Viney – Policy Principal (MV)

Guests:

Steve Skelton – Director of Strategy & Innovation (SS)
Richard Jouault – Assistant Director, Social Policy (RJ)
Fiona Glover – Assistant Director, Planning & Environment (FG)
Tristen Dodd – Director, Transport (TD)

Apologies:

Minister for the Environment, Deputy John Young (JY)
Deputy Rowland Huelin (RH)
Dr Michael Oliver (MO)
Murray Norton – Jersey Chamber of Commerce (MN)
Sue Duhamel – Policy Director (SD)

1. Welcome, apologies and minutes of last meeting

1.1. CT welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted from JY, RH, MO, MN and SD.

1.2. The minutes of Meeting 7 on the 13th June 2019 were agreed by the Board.

2. Matters Arising - JS

2.1. JS advised the Board that he had recently resigned from his role at the Institute of Directors (IoD). JS noted that he had offered to IoD to continue to feedback to them from this Board. JS stated that he wished to remain a member of the Board, subject to agreement. The Board agreed that JS should remain a member and that he would continue to provide a link to the IOD.

3. Presentations – Island Plan (SS), Housing (RJ), Infrastructure (FG/TD)

NS introduced SS, RJ, TD, FG. Their respective roles were explained to the Board and a brief summary of their presentations was given, namely; Infrastructure, Housing and matters for the Board to consider relating to the Island Plan. The objective of the presentations was to demonstrate how the work of the Board would feed into these areas and vice versa.

3.1. Each presentation was planned to be delivered one after the other, with discussion to take place after each. However, given the level of overlap involved between the various policy areas – the Island Plan and Housing presentations were given side by side. Discussion took place throughout each presentation. The Chair requested that each presentation be circulated to members, and published.

Action 1 – NS to arrange circulation and publishing of the presentations on the Policy Board website.

The key points arising were noted as follows:

3.2. The Island Plan and Migration (population policy) are closely linked e.g. Migration creates development demand but there would be a demand even without migration.

3.3. Around mid-2020, the initial draft of the Island Plan will be published and the Board will inform part of this work. SS noted that the Board need to be cognisant of whether the Island Plan would be drafted based on a proposed or an adopted policy.

3.4. SS advised that the Island Plan team are able to model based on migration control scenarios.

3.5. SS noted that the impact of a Migration policy would likely to be felt in the second half of the Island Plan, as it will take time to measure the impact.

3.6. CT referenced a recent Housing demand paper- published last Autumn - this is the paper the Island Plan Team are working to¹.

3.7. SS informed the Board that the Island Plan team are using current trends to formulate the plan - the policies developed by the Board will inform the more defined projections.

3.8. The Board were presented with an overview of the planned consultation. This included questions on housing and development options. There is also an analysis of the impact of each option.

3.9. SS highlighted the synergies of the population policy and Island Plan.

3.10. SS advised that the consultation was launching on 11th July 2019.

3.11. Members of the Board suggested that a question relating to population could be added to the consultation. SS advised that consideration would need to be given as to how to frame this question in order to get a productive answer, however adding a question was an option.

3.12 Presentation – Housing (RJ)

3.13. RJ highlighted the three phases to the work of the Housing Policy Development Board (HPDB) - discovery phase, solutions (August/September), recommendations Q1 2020

3.14. The presentation included a review of resident population estimates. Of note were the statistics relating to the change in household occupancy; in the 1960's the average was 3 people. More recently this number has dropped. This causes a multiplier effect on the number of houses needed.

RJ – noted that this was a recognised social trend – driven more by ageing demography than anything else.

3.15. RJ highlighted that recently, demand for housing had outstripped the available stock. It had been anticipated that demand would be met by supply (in relation to the previous Island Plan). The delay of developments like La Collette and Ann Court meant that the available stock would not match demand until 2020. RJ further explained that actual demand over the period (+1,000 net inward migration) far exceeded planned demand (+325) and therefore actual demand outstripped supply over the life of the previous Island Plan creating a “pent up” or “latent demand” going into the next planning period.

RJ noted that the rise in demand had two drivers - inward migration and ageing demography. RJ emphasised that more can be done about migration than the other.

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<https://www.gov.je/SiteCollectionDocuments/Government%20and%20administration/Objective%20Assessment%20of%20Housing%20Need%20Report.pdf>

RJ further highlighted that affordability has become more of an issue and that controlling migration may help in lowering prices. However, RJ advised the board that even at Net Nil migration - due to the ageing population - there would be a need for 2000+ new homes.

3.16. RJ noted that the HPDB's work will include looking at incentivising downsizing, the more efficient use of existing housing stock and more efficient use of land (these also feed into the Island Plan).

3.17 Island Plan - GG - explained that the number of people that could be housed on an area of land depended upon the type of development. The type of housing and amount of land required would be included in consultation of island Plan.

3.18. The Chair thanked both SS and RJ

3.19. Infrastructure Presentation (FG/TD)

3.20. FG noted the importance of defining infrastructure i.e. it is not just roads. It includes the social infrastructure of the Island e.g. schools/open space/public buildings and utilities.

3.21. The presentation highlighted that whilst population influenced demands upon resources it had to be balanced with (and by) the amount of that resource available, and the security and resilience of the infrastructure networks.

3.22. FG advised that a key area for consideration was the balance in the generational infrastructure that we have, when compared to the people that live in the Island (refer to Venn diagram included in the presentation slides).

3.23. FG demonstrated the "knock on effect" that other policy areas had to infrastructure – for example developing out of town would require an increase to the size of sewage pipes from the development right the way back into town.

3.24. CT asked a question in relation to Jersey Water's leakage rates. FG/TD advised that statistics were available on this from Jersey Water.

3.25. TD emphasised the impact that heavy vehicles have on the roads. The rate of damage increases geometrically with weight – an example cited was that one lorry driving over a particular section of road over a period of time does as much damage as several thousand cars. TD noted that no additional tax was paid to account for this.

3.26. TD presented statistics suggesting that of the 10,000 cars which enter St. Helier, daily, around 8,500 of them had a single occupant. It was suggested that to reduce car use, different ideas would be required e.g. usage of a shared fleet of cars for all Islanders.

3.27. A 2019 "Infrastructure Plan" is being developed. FG noted that various infrastructure issues are functions of population.

The Board noted that the three presentations had highlighted the interplay between housing, Island Plan and infrastructure.

3.28. This concluded the presentations. The Chair thanked all the presenters for attending.

4. Housekeeping and AOB

4.1. The date of the next meeting will be Thursday 11th July 2019.

4.2. NS noted that at the next meeting, the Board would discuss initial policy proposal areas for development over the summer recess.

4.3. NS informed the Board that the work of the MPDB was currently undergoing scrutiny by the Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel, and that the Chief Minister, Assistant Chief Minister and Minister for the Environment had or were due to appear from the Board.

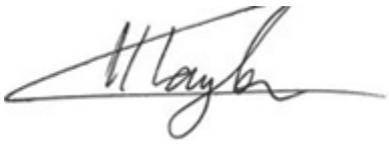
4.5. There being no further business, CT thanked everyone present and closed the meeting at 13:02

5. Action Points

	Action required	Allocated to	Required by	Date completed
1	NS to arrange circulation and publishing of the presentations on the Policy Board website.	NS	11/07/19	28/06/19

Minutes agreed

Chairman:



Date:

11/07/19

Agreement for publication

Chairman:



Date:

11/07/19

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	Outcome to be minuted at Meeting 9
Meeting 4	8	Circulate dependency ratio report	NS/MV	25/04/19	Placed on MPDB website – 04/04/19
Meeting 4	9	Circulation of Birth and School attendance statistics	Statistics Jersey/NS/MV	13/05/19	To Chair – 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	Discussion paper being prepared
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	Discussion paper being prepared
Meeting 7	18	Officers to provide stats relating to net nil migration.	NS	27/06/19	Requested for presentation at Meeting 9.