

Political Oversight Group: Recovery from Major Incidents

Terms of Reference

Background and purpose

As is recommended practice in the wake of a critical incident, an operational Recovery Co-ordination Group (RCG) has been established to facilitate transition from the “Response Phase” to a “New Normality”. As two major incidents occurred in the period before Christmas – Haut du Mont (Op. Spire) and the sinking of l’Ecume II (Op. Nectar) – the RCG is tasked to consider and support the Island’s recovery from both. The RCG will place the deceased, affected family and friends, and displaced people at the heart of all decision making.

We anticipate that the full recovery phase will last many months, and potentially over a year.

A Political Oversight Group is proposed, to provide a clear formal connection between the operational RCG and the Council of Ministers.

Proposed role and responsibilities

- To inform the Recovery Impact Assessment, through elected members’ close connection with their communities
- To oversee the recovery strategy and in due course the recovery action plan
- To ensure any necessary investigations or inquiries are identified and facilitated, and appropriate independence maintained
- To assist in the dissemination of credible information and advice back to the community, assisting to maintain community cohesion and providing public reassurance where needed
- To agree the strategy for obtaining views from the community (residents, businesses, etc) on longer-term recovery questions – e.g., memorial, future of the site – and taking the lead on behalf of the Council of Ministers on any States Assembly propositions or reports related to Op Spire and Op Nectar recovery
- To ensure clear, regular communication with the Council of Ministers, States Members, Parishes, Andium Homes, displaced residents and other key stakeholders (especially the families when decisions are made that affect them or the legacy of their loved ones)
- To monitor financial implications, ensuring all appropriate funding channels are explored and exploited appropriately and where costs are not covered by existing & approved budgets make recommendations for additional financial allocations to key recovery needs, as the recovery phase progresses

Membership

Kirsten Morel, Deputy Chief Minister (Chair)

Ian Gorst, Minister for Treasury and Finances (and Andium Homes shareholder)

Tom Binet, Minister for Infrastructure

Elaine Millar, Minister for Social Security

David Warr, Minister for Housing and Communities

Karen Wilson, Minister for Health and Social Services
Helen Miles, Minister for Home Affairs
Simon Crowcroft, Connétable of St Helier

Membership may be expanded in due course.

Officer support

The Recovery Political Oversight Group will be attended by

- Suzanne Wylie, Chief Executive and executive lead for Op Spire Recovery
- Richard Bell, Asst Chief Executive and Chair of the Op Spire Recovery Coordination Group (or Kate Briden, Chief Officer of Justice and Home Affairs, as Deputy Chair)
- Richard Corrigan, Chief Officer, Economy and link to Op. Nectar
- Megan Mathias, Director of Delivery & Improvement and Member of the Op Spire Recovery Coordination Group
- Bobby Dhadda, Head of Communications for CLS and Member of the Op Spire Recovery Coordination Group
- Secretariat (Ministerial Support Unit)

Other officers – in particular the RCG cell chairs - will attend in support of agenda items. In addition, Chief of Police Robin Smith will also be invited to attend for specific items.

Meetings and timeline

It is suggested the Political Oversight Group for the Recovery Strategy meets weekly for the first 4 to 6 weeks, with frequency after that point tailored appropriately.

It is intended as a time-limited group that will close in tandem with the decision to close down the Recovery Coordination Group. No date is fixed at the current time.