

Press Release

For immediate release: 23rd March 2015

POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

The States of Alderney Policy and Finance Committee met on 23rd March 2015. The full minutes will be published shortly and the following issues are worthy of note.

Alderney Representatives in the States of Guernsey to propose amendment:

The Alderney Representatives on the Guernsey States of Deliberation are to propose an amendment to the Treasury & Resources report on their review of personal tax and benefits. This follows on from discussions between the States of Alderney and Guernsey Ministers, through the Alderney Liaison Group, on the related and on-going review of the financial relationships between the 2 islands. It seems that the Alderney amendment will receive support from Guernsey Ministers. The consequence of the amendment, if passed, is that Alderney may well follow its own course on issues related to the financing of public services in recognition of the distinct differences in the economies of the 2 islands.

Survey of Jubilee and New Connaught Care Home considered by the States:

The Policy & Finance Committee of the States of Alderney has received a detailed condition survey of the Jubilee and the New Connaught. This has identified a number of both short and long term maintenance works for the States, as owner, to progress. Committee Chairman, Neil Harvey said, "Our primary concern is for the comfort and safety of our residents and all works will be carried out sympathetically and with the intent of causing minimum disruption."

Debate on changes to liquor licensing laws:

The Policy & Finance Committee of the States of Alderney debated fully whether to amend its licensing ordinance to extend alcohol off-sales. The Committee resolved that it is minded to do so. It resolved also to consider other changes to liquor licensing laws in consultation with local licensed victuallers.

St Anne's school – concerns raised with Minister:

The Guernsey Education Minister, Robert Sillars, attended a meeting of the States of Alderney Policy & Finance Committee to discuss on-going concerns with education provision at St Anne's school. States Members raised specific concerns on behalf of parents and students and were robust in seeking action from the Guernsey Education Department to support the school and its students. The Minister offered a further meeting with the Committee in April to provide an update on the remedial action that is planned by his Department.

States reaffirms its approach to accommodation permit scheme:

The Policy & Finance Committee has reaffirmed its decision to contract with the 'Quality in Tourism' organisation to provide the inspections required under the statutory accommodation permit scheme for the States. The one year pilot will also provide a voluntary 'grading' scheme for those who wish to participate.

States to consider transport proposals:

The Policy & Finance Committee of the States of Alderney will be holding a special meeting on 14 April to consider proposals from Bumblebee and from Mr Peter Annereau for ferry services. At the same meeting the Committee will also consider a proposal for an air service from City Wing.

The members of the Policy and Finance Committee are:

Neil Harvey (Chairman)
Matt Birmingham
Louis Jean
Graham McKinley
Robert McDowall (Deputy Chairman)
Norma Paris
Steve Roberts
Chris Rowley
Francis Simonet
Ian Tugby