

POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
Microsoft Teams Meeting (video link)
21st May 2020
1030 hours

PRESENT:

Mr J Dent, Chairman
Mr S Roberts
Mr G McKinley
Mr M Dean
Mr A Snowdon
Mr K Gentle
Mr D Earl
Mr C Harris
Mr Jean (by phone)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr A Muter, Chief Executive (CE)
Mrs E Maurice, Acting Head of Finance
(TREASURY)
Mrs S Pengilley-Price, Executive Officer
to the Chief Executive (EO);
Mr S Taylor, Strategic Financial Advisor;
Mr C Brock, Director of Business
Development;
Mr W Tate, President.

Apologies: Ms A Burgess (for late arrival);

ACTION

32/2020 Matters Arising

32.1 Any relevant comments from Chairmen (re BDCC, GSC, CfTED & Finance), & Guernsey Representatives

None.

32.2 External Relations Update

None.

It was resolved by a majority of members of the Committee (Mr Gentle and Mr Harris voted against) to defer the meeting. The meeting was deferred at 10.43am to be reconvened in the following week.

Meeting Reconvened 1030 hours Tuesday 26th May 2020

PRESENT:

Mr J Dent, Chairman
Mr S Roberts
Mr G McKinley
Mr M Dean
Mr A Snowdon
Mr K Gentle
Mr D Earl
Mr C Harris
Mr Jean

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr A Muter, Chief Executive (CE)
Mr S Taylor, Strategic Financial Advisor;
Ms S Ireland, Programme Manager;
Mr C Brock, Director of Business
Development;
Mr W Tate, President.

Apologies: Ms A Burgess (for late arrival); Mrs E Maurice, Acting Head of Finance; Mrs S Pengilley-Price, Executive Officer.

33/2020 Legislation, Conventions, Policy & Finance

33.1 Alderney Ambulance Service – Options Paper – Report from Chief Executive dated 12th May 2020 tabled.

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to refer the decision to the States of Alderney and

- Recommend to the States the implementation of Option 3 to create a combined Ambulance and Fire Service; and
- Request the Acting Head of Finance to prepare options to move away from a subscription service in the 2021 budget.

CE OFFICE/TREASURY
BILLET ITEM

33.2 Statutory Discount Legislation – Damages (Assumed Rate of Return and Related Matters) (Enabling Provisions) (Guernsey and Alderney) Law, 2020

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to recommend to the States of Alderney that it should consider whether the Damages (Discount Rate and Related Matters) (Enabling Provisions), Law 2020 should be extended to cover Alderney.

BILLET ITEM

33.3 Amendments to the Code of Conduct – Emergency Provisions – Report from Law Officers dated 12th May 2020 tabled and considered.

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved unanimously that the following amendments to the Code of Conduct are placed before the States of Alderney for consideration and decision.

BILLET ITEM

33.4 Single Property Tax

The Policy & Finance Committee noted a verbal update. A media statement will be made.

33.5 External Audit Contract – Report from Acting Head of Finance dated 21st May 2020 tabled and considered.

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to recommend to the States of Alderney that it should:

- Agree to recommend to the States that Grant Thornton (Channel Islands) is appointed as the auditor of the States of Alderney and the States of Alderney Water Board for 5 years with effect from the 2020 accounts;
- Request that the Acting Head of Finance advises the other bodies in the tender process of the outcome, subject to full States approval; and
- Request that the Acting Head of Finance advises both auditors of the decision, subject to full States approval, and liaises with both parties to facilitate a smooth transition.

TREASURY/BILLET ITEM

33.6 Pension Liability – Report from Treasury dated 26th March 2020 tabled and considered.

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to:

- Note the current Pension Fund deficit and includes this as a risk to be monitored;

- Request the Acting Head of Finance to seek updated actuarial advice and report back on potential deficit scenarios and what action the States may wish to consider; and
- Continue to request an annual update from Treasury.

TREASURY

33.7 Rules of Procedure – Report from Kevin Gentle and advice from Chief Executive dated 16th May 2020 tabled and considered.

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved (Mr Earl, Mr Jean and Ms Burgess voted against; Mr Harris abstained) to approve the changes to the Rules of Procedure subject to reference to the Law Officers for advice about any unintended adverse consequences prior to formal submission to the States of Alderney.

Graham McKinley left the meeting for another States commitment.

33.8 Bailiwick Legislation – Email from Bailiff Office dated 30th April 2020 tabled and considered.

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to approve the following Bailiwick legislation for consideration at the next meeting of the full States of Alderney:

- The Capacity (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2020
- The Marriage (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2020
And the Policy Letter
- Amendments to the Terrorism and Crime (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law

BILLET ITEM

34/2020 Transport

34.1 CONFIDENTIAL ITEM – See Confidential Annexure

34.2 CONFIDENTIAL ITEM – See Confidential Annexure

35/2020 Economy & Renewable Energy

35.1 AGCC Annual Report – remote meeting

Resolved to revert to the AGCC to establish whether a meeting can include a larger number of P&F Committee members.

36/2020 Any Other Business

36.1 Policy Finance Committee resolved unanimously to request that the States meetings are brought forward by one week in June and July to avoid a clash with the States of Deliberation.

CHAIRMAN P&F

36.2 Bespoke Exemptions – Report from Alderney Pandemic Emergency Committee tabled and considered.

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to appoint Mr Snowden as Chairman of the Pandemic Emergency Sub Committee.

36.3 Annual Accounts – Policy & Finance Committee resolved to approve the accounts, audit report and letter of representation and place before the States of Alderney.

BILLET ITEM

37/2020 Agenda Resolutions – Confirmation

The above draft resolutions were confirmed by members at the meeting.

38/2020 For Information & Noting

The following reports/letters were noted:-

- Resolutions of Previous Meeting – circulated via email
- States of Alderney Management Accounts
- EDR Summary

39/2020 Items Scheduled for Future Meetings

Meeting closed: 1.45pm

Signed: James Dent

Date: 26nd May 2020