

STATES OF ALDERNEY

BILLET D'ETAT

FOR WEDNESDAY 22ND OCTOBER 2014

Members of the States:

I have the honour to inform you that the Meeting of the States will be held at 5:30 pm on Wednesday 22nd October 2014. This will be preceded by the People's Meeting, which will be held on Wednesday 15th October 2014 at 7:00 pm in the Hall at St Anne's School.

W Stuart Trought President

Item I The Alderney eGambling (Commencement) Regulations, 2014

The following letter has been received from Mr Francis Simonet, Chairman of the Policy & Finance Committee:-

"The Alderney eGambling (Commencement) Regulations, 2014 were drafted by the Law Officers of the Crown in conjunction with the Alderney Gambling Control Commission and came into force on Wednesday 24th September, 2014.

The Alderney eGambling (Commencement) Regulations, 2014 is to bring into force Section 3 and 5 of the Alderney eGambling (Amendment) Ordinance, 2014 at such time as the States of Guernsey made corresponding changes to the Alderney eGambling (Operations in Guernsey) Ordinance, 2006. The changes are small being the inclusion of Temporary eGambling licensees in Section 1(a) and 1(b) and Sections 1(d) to 1(g) of the Alderney eGambling Ordinance, 2009 and were considered necessary by the Law Officers of the Crown ahead of the forthcoming Moneyval inspection.

I would be grateful if you would place this matter before the next meeting of the States of Alderney with an appropriate proposition.

F Simonet Chairman"

The States of Alderney is requested not to annul 'The Alderney eGambling (Commencement) Regulations, 2014'.

Item II Budgets for 2015 and Revised Budgets 2014

The following letter has been received from Mr Francis Simonet, Chairman of the Policy & Finance Committee:-

"Under Section 58 of the Government of Alderney Law the Policy & Finance Committee is required to publish the proposed budgets for 2015 and report on the budget for 2014.

The attached Budget Report provides a full explanation relating to the States of Alderney and the States of Alderney Water Board.

I would be grateful if you would place this matter before the States of Alderney with appropriate propositions.

F Simonet Chairman"

After consideration of the Budget Report, The States of Alderney is asked:-

To accept the States of Alderney Revenue, Capital, and Economic Development Reserve Budgets for 2015, and,

To accept the States of Alderney Water Board Revenue and Capital Budgets for 2015

Item III Occupier's Rate 2015

The following letter has been received from Mr Francis Simonet, Chairman of the Policy & Finance Committee:-

"You will be aware that at the end of each year the States must, by Ordinance, set the level at which the Occupiers' Rate is to be charged for the following year, irrespective of any increase.

As mentioned earlier in the Budget Report, the Policy & Finance Committee has resolved that no increase in rates should be applied in 2015, and therefore rates will remain at 2014 levels.

It should be noted that, mindful of the current economic climate, no increase has been applied to domestic rates since 2012, and follows a reduction in commercial rates last year.

I therefore enclose a draft Ordinance entitled "The Occupier's Rate (Level for 2015) Ordinance, 2014" and should be grateful if you would place this before the States of Alderney with an appropriate proposition.

F Simonet Chairman"

The States of Alderney is asked to approve "The Occupier's Rate (Level for 2015) Ordinance, 2014".

Item IV Proposed Increase in Water Rates

The following letter has been received from Mr Chris Rowley, Chairman of the General Services Committee:-

"The States is requested to review the Water Rate charges annually, as part of the budget process, taking into account anticipated expenditure as predicted by the Water Board Management.

As previously reported the operating deficit had risen to £105K in 2006, which necessitated several years of 10% increases, reducing to 5% in 2011 & 2012, and finally returning to annual RPIX increase of 2.1% in 2013.

In considering the Budget for 2015, the Board are proposing to continue with an RPIX increase of 2.1% to ensure the Water Board continues to meet its annual operating costs in any given year and to avoid a similar situation occurring again. This increase together with significant reductions in expenditure, to the minimum level required to operate the service, is anticipated to achieve a small operating surplus for 2015.

Meanwhile, as mentioned in the earlier Budget Report, I am pleased to advise that the substantial capital investment program continues to be carried out in order to improve the Board's infrastructure and to ensure that the island's water supply can be maintained at an acceptable standard. As the Board has minimal reserves this investment has been funded by way of grants from the States of Alderney, totalling in excess of £2.1 million since 2008, with a further £250K anticipated for 2015.

However it should be noted that although we now have adequate water supplies to service the Island that this resource should not be wasted. The cost of collecting and treating the supply continues to rise, with the consequential effect that the increased operating costs need to be met by the income from rates.

A draft Ordinance entitled "The States Water Supply (Rates of Charge)(Alderney) Ordinance 2014" is attached, which if approved will bring the revised rates and charges into effect from the quarter commencing 26th December 2014, and will be reflected in the March 2015 Water Rate accounts, as rates are charged in arrears.

I would be grateful if you would place this matter before the States of Alderney with appropriate propositions.

C Rowley Chairman"

The States of Alderney is asked to approve "The States Water Supply (Rates of Charge) (Alderney) Ordinance 2014".

Item V Elections 2014

The following letter has been received from Mr Francis Simonet, Chairman of the Policy & Finance Committee:-

"Section 28(1) of the Law states that the States shall appoint a day not earlier than 14th November and no later than 14th December on which an ordinary election shall be held for the purpose of electing members of the States in place of the members whose terms of office expire at the end of 2014, namely Mr R. Berry; Mr M. Birmingham; Mrs N. Paris; Mr S. Roberts and Mr I. Tugby.

Saturday 22nd November has been identified for the start of the Election process commencing with the Ordinary Election. Nominations to be received during the seven days ending at 4pm on 11th November 2014.

The Plebiscite would then take place on Saturday, 6th December 2014. Nominations to be received during the seven days ending at 4pm, 2nd December 2014.

F Simonet Chairman" The States of Alderney is asked to approve that the date for the Ordinary Election be Saturday 22nd November 2014 and that in accordance with the procedure approved on 20th October 2010, the Plebiscite Election be held on Saturday, 6th December 2014.

Item VI Alderney Commission for Renewable Energy: Appointment of Commissioner

The following letter has been received from Mr Francis Simonet, Chairman of the Policy & Finance Committee:-

"The appointment of Captain Robert Barton as a Commissioner for the Alderney Commission for Renewable Energy was confirmed at the meeting of the States in March 2010; his contract was renewed for a further two year period in March 2012 and then extended for a further period of 6 months in 2014. The Policy and Finance Committee has received a letter from the Chairman of the Alderney Commission for Renewable Energy advising that Captain Barton's current contract expires on the 2nd October 2014. Captain Barton has indicated that he would be prepared to undertake another two year contract as a Commissioner and the Chairman has stated that the renewal of his contract as Commissioner would be supported by the Commission, as he is an invaluable member of the team and has made significant contributions to the overall development of the Commission and its work.

The approval of the States to the appointment of Captain Barton as a Member of the Commission is sought in accordance with the provisions of section 6 of the Renewable Energy (Alderney) Law, 2007. I will be obliged if this is placed before the States at its next meeting together with an appropriate proposition.

F Simonet Chairman"

The States of Alderney is asked to approve, on the recommendation of the Policy and Finance Committee and in accordance with section 6 of the Renewable Energy (Alderney) Law, 2007, the appointment for a further period of two years of Captain Robert Barton as a Member of the Alderney Commission for Renewable Energy.

Item VI Questions and Reports

None received

Issued: 10th October 2014