

**POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Anne French Room**

**30<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

**0900 hours**

**PRESENT:**

Mr N Vooght, Chairman  
Mr K Gentle  
Mrs L Maurice  
Mr B Woodhead  
Mr B Kelly  
Mr I Carter  
Mr A Snowdon  
Mr D Smithurst  
Mr W Abel

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mrs E Maurice, Temporary Chief Executive (TCE)  
Mrs L Baines, Political & Senior Executive Officer  
Mr Stephen Taylor, Strategic Financial Adviser  
(SFA) (via Teams)  
Mrs E O'Toole, Acting Head of Finance (AHoF) (via  
Teams)  
Mr J Laband, Policy Support Officer (PSO)

Apologies: Mr S Roberts; Mrs S Pengilly-Price, Head of Govt Support (HoGS)

Attendees: Mr W Pierce, Head of Alderney Care (HoAC) for item 4.1 only

Declarations of Interest:  
Confidentiality Reminder

**AGENDA ITEM**

**ACTION**

**01/10/2023**

**Minutes**

**1.1 Minutes from previous meeting for approval – 26<sup>th</sup> September & 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023**  
– tabled and **approved subject to amendments raised.**

**Electoral Roll** – Temporary Chief Executive and P&F Chairman have raised this with Head of Public Services, awaiting further detail. Noted.

**Biodiversity Strategy** – on the GSC agenda for Friday's meeting. Noted.

**ACRE** – letter from drafting Law Officers received – to continue with option A. Noted.

**1.2 Policy and Finance Decision Progress Log – July 2023 Meeting** – tabled and **noted. Log to be brought up to date.**

**PSO**

**IHRA** – response to letter sent in May chased by Temporary Chief Executive.

**Coin Contract** – **SEE CONFIDENTIAL ANNEXURE**

**Letter to Connaught Care Board** – Temporary Chief Executive advised that a letter has been drafted. Noted.

**Letter re Criminal Damage - Fort Tourgis** – the TCE advised that the letter had been sent and will be circulated to members for information. Noted.

**Purchase of Le Val Field** – Head of Government Support and Head of Alderney Care dealing with this item – TCE to chase progress. Noted.

**Committee Rules of Procedure – Publication of Draft Minutes** – following Law Officers advice, a change to the Government of Alderney Law would be required for this to be implemented. Noted.

0930 Greffier joined meeting; Ian Davis, Legislative Counsel & Advocate & Laura De Lisle, Special Adviser to P&R joined via Teams

03/10/2023 **Legislation, Conventions & Policy**

**3.1 MoneyVal Legislation**

**3.1.1 Annual Validations Ordinance** – Report from the Special Advisor to the Policy and Resources Committee tabled and considered.

**The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to:**

- approve the policy letter entitled “Amendments To Annual Returns Provisions Under the Companies (Alderney) Law, 1994”;
- approve that the policy letter and propositions together with the draft legislation entitled “The Companies (Alderney) Law, 1994 (Amendment – Annual Returns) Ordinance, 2023” should be provided to the States of Alderney for agreement at its next meeting beginning 15 November 2023.

**Proposer: Nigel Vooght**

**Secunder: Kevin Gentle**

HoGS/PSO/BILLET

0936 Greffier, Ian Davies & Laura De Lisle left meeting

02/10/2023 **External Relations/Budget & Finance**

**2.1 External Relations Update (Bailiwick Council/ALG/MoJ/Normandie/Ille et Vilaine & Brittany).**

**Bailiwick Council** – Nothing further to report, no meeting held.

**ALG** – Letter received from Deputy Helyar regarding the working together with States of Guernsey.

**MoJ** – Visit from MP Freer went well. Letter of thanks to be drafted.

TCE

**Normandie** – Nothing further to report.

**Brittany & Ille et Vilaine Agreements** – Nothing further to report.

**2.2 Finance (including Grants & Subsidies)**

**2.2.1 AHA Rent Levels 2024** – Report from the Head of Finance dated 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 tabled and considered.

This Framework Agreement between the States of Alderney and the Alderney Housing Association requires the States (acting by and through the Chief Executive) to approve any proposed rent increase by the AHA.

Concerns were raised by members regarding the proposed rents still being lower than inflation, and the potential impact this may have on the maintenance of the AHA properties.

**The Policy and Finance Committee resolved (Mrs Maurice against) to note the proposed AHA rent increase and ask the temporary Chief Executive to confirm the approval to the AHA.**

**Concerns raised by members to be fed back to AHA through the States Member liaison.**

TCE/KG

*0945 Will Pierce, Head of Alderney Care joined meeting*

**04/10/2023 Items for Development/Discussion**

**4.1 Primary Care Update – SEE CONFIDENTIAL ANNEXURE**

*1011 Will Pierce, Head of Alderney Care left meeting*

**2.3 Finance (including Grants & Subsidies) continued**

**2.3.1 Second Home Property Tax – Report from the Strategic Financial Adviser dated 12<sup>th</sup> tabled and considered.**

Representatives of the States recently met with Officers and a member of the Isle of Anglesey County Council to discuss their approach to levying Council Tax on second homes.

**The Policy and Finance Committee resolved to:**

- a) **Note the contents of the paper,**
- b) **Reconstitute the Housing Group with the following members: Mr Woodhead; Mrs Maurice; Mr Smithurst and Mr Carter; and**
- c) **Agree that the Temporary Chief Executive and Acting Head of Finance should liaise with the Housing Group on appropriate steps to develop an accurate database of dwellings on the island.**

TCE/AHoF

**2.3.2 AWT Service Level Agreement – SEE CONFIDENTIAL ANNEXURE**

**2.3.3 Community Assistance Fund Update – Report from the Acting Head of Finance dated 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023 – tabled and noted.**

**The Policy and Finance Committee is requested to note the summary report on the Community Assistance Fund for the period 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 – 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023.**

**2.3.4 SOA Management Accounts – September – tabled and noted.**

**2.3.5 EDR Summary – September – tabled and noted.**

**Alderney Airport** – application partially received, cannot be advertised until complete hard copy received. Looking at segmenting the application pack to upload onto the States website. Issue of planning fee being dealt with. Noted.

**Marine Independent Advice** – it was noted that this was for the SFA time on the ferry services. Noted.

**2.4 Chief Clerk Recruitment – Update**

Members were advised that the contract has been approved by Government House, with the aim of placing the appointment onto the November Billet. **Noted.**

**03/10/2023**      **Legislation, Conventions & Policy**

**3.2 Proposed Amendments to the Deposit Compensation (Bailiwick of Guernsey Ordinance, 2008)** – Report from the Policy Support Officer dated 13<sup>th</sup> October tabled and considered **The Policy & Finance Committee is recommended to endorse the proposed amendments to the Deposit Compensation (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Ordinance, 2008 as set out within the Policy Letter.**

PSO

**3.3 Minimum Wage Update** – Report from the Policy Support Officer dated 17<sup>th</sup> October tabled and noted.

It was advised that the letter requesting whether the States of Guernsey could undertake powers of officers and enforcement matters on Alderney’s behalf, has been submitted to CfESS, and subsequently acknowledged by Deputy Roffey. The Policy Support Officer advised that public consultation on implementing such legislation will not be required at the current time, as the proposed Alderney legislation will replicate that of the States of Guernsey and could be discussed at a People’s meeting in due course. However, the public will be informed once it has been drafted. It was noted that the legislation will not be drafted until there is a favourable response to the request lodged with CfESS

**The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to note the report and letter.**

PSO

*1050 Break*

*1100 Meeting reconvened*

**05/10/2023**      **AEL Items**

**5.1 Alderney Electricity Limited – Historic Investment – SEE CONFIDENTIAL ANNEXURE**

**5.2 Alderney Electricity Solar Array Project Strategic Importance** – Report from the Managing Director of AEL dated 4<sup>th</sup> October tabled and considered.

The Board of Alderney Electricity Ltd (AEL), following discussions with the SoA Energy Working Group (EWG), have committed to exploring and, as far as possible, introducing types of renewable energy generation where the relevant technology can be shown to be at a maturity level (Technology Readiness Level (TRL)) that it can deliver significant benefits (technical, economic and environmental) acknowledging the island resource constraints.

The EWG are scouting emergent technologies, identifying whether the TRL has reached a level for consideration as part of the island energy mix.

Mr Gentle advised on a proposed process, and it was noted that Guernsey Ports are being consulted regarding the Glint & Glare Report. AEL are also looking into possible public consultation.

Members were advised that ongoing discussions are being had with AEL and the Energy Working Group.

**The Policy and Finance Committee resolved to recognise the Alderney Electricity Ltd (AEL) Solar Array Project, as outlined in the report, as having Strategic Importance for the island thus allowing the Building and Development Control Committee to evaluate the proposal on its merit. Mr Lancaster to be invited to the December P&F meeting to answer any questions from members.**

TCE

**Low Voltage Connections** – it was queried how this upgrade/review would be funded, and what proposals AEL have for this work. Item to be raised with Mr Lancaster at the December meeting. **Noted.**

**5.3 Alderney Electricity Renewables Update** – Report from the Managing Director of AEL dated 9<sup>th</sup> October tabled and noted.

The Island Plan, published in January 2022, identifies two energy goals:

- Increase the amount of clean energy used (reduce the carbon footprint)
- Reduce energy costs for individuals and organisations.

The Alderney Energy Policy, adopted by States of Alderney (SOA) on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023, recognises the need to transition away from fossil fuels in coming years and sets a policy objective to increase the penetration of renewable energy generation on island.

**The Policy and Finance Committee resolved to note the update.**

**06/10/2023 For Information & Noting**

**6.1. Letter from Deputy Brouard – Contingency for airport closure** – Letter dated 17<sup>th</sup> October tabled and noted.

**The Policy and Finance Committee resolved to note the update.**

**07/10/2023 Island Plan**

**7.1. Sector Feedback – Verbal Update**

**7.1.1 Care**

Mr Carter and Mr Kelly met with Guernsey Mind – they are aware of the withdrawn physical presence on the island and are looking at ways to improve this through on-line provision.

Respite Care – issue at MMH and CCH regarding respite to enable carers to have a break. Proving difficult for carers to take holidays. Noted.

**7.1.2 Education**

Ofsted inspection of St Anne’s School went well. Quality of education sector requires improvement. School will be in association with ESC putting together an action plan to address the issues identified and to improve on this judgement. It was noted that there are currently 120 pupils at St Anne’s compared to 140 pupils 2 years ago.

**7.1.3 Transport – SEE CONFIDENTIAL ANNEXURE**

**7.1.4 Housing**

Old Connaught – moving forward, architects are currently working on the proposed unit sizes.

Revision of Leasehold Law – meeting organised with the PSO and Law Officers.

HWG – now re-established can move forward. Will call a meeting shortly. Chairman to be appointed at the initial meeting. Noted.

Old Connaught Dry Rot Survey – copy to be forwarded to Mr Kelly for information. Noted.

**7.1.5 Energy**

12 replies received regarding the tidal arrays. Mr Abel attended an Energy Conference this week, on tidal and wave energy. It was noted that there is a large focus for funding for these initiatives worldwide.

UK Marine Energy Council – Mr Abel advised that he had met with Dr Alan Whitehead (MP for Southampton and Labour Shadow Energy) who indicated that if Labour came to power that they would include the Channel Islands renewable energy resources into the UK governments Renewables Plan. They would also extend the process of contracts for

difference to the Channel Islands. Mr Abel also advised that he and Mr Gentle met Dr Whitehead via Teams in May 2022 to discuss Alderney's tidal energy resources. EWG – wish to expand mandate to cover working with consortium to connect with wind and tidal. **Mr Abel to bring a report with recommendation back to P&F for consideration.**

**Mr Abel and Mr Vooght to provide a proposal for P&F consideration regarding Mr Turner Samuels.**

**BA  
BA/NV**

#### **7.1.6 Economy**

Productive meeting held with Guernsey Chamber of Commerce. Meeting with Jersey Minister of Economic Development arranged for later this week. Noted.

#### **7.1.7 Environment**

Nothing further to report.

*1202 Kate Rabey joined meeting via Teams*

### **03/10/2023 Legislation, Conventions & Policy continued**

#### **3.1 MoneyVal Legislation**

**3.1.1 > 3.1.9 - MoneyVal Strategy Documents** – Report from the Director of Financial Crime Policy dated 20<sup>th</sup> October - tabled and considered.

Members were advised that on the basis that no amendments other than minor amendments are made without reverting to the Policy & Finance Committee before finalisation, the following recommendations are made today.

**The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to:**

- 1. Agree, issue and publish the National Strategy for Combatting Money Laundering, Financing of Terrorism and Financing of Weapons of Mass Destruction;**
- 2. Agree and issue the Bailiwick of Guernsey's Strategy for Countering Terrorism: Bailiwick CONTEST;**
- 3. Agree and issue the Bailiwick of Guernsey Anti-Money Laundering and Combatting of Terrorist Financing Strategy;**
- 4. Agree and issue the Bailiwick of Guernsey Anti-bribery and Corruption Strategy;**
- 5. Agree the Revenue Service Tax Based AML/CFT/CFP Strategy;**
- 6. Agree the updated Terms of Reference for the Anti-Financial Crime Advisory Committee;**
- 7. Agree the Statement on an Overarching Approach to Guernsey and Alderney Non Profit Organisations;**
- 8. Endorse the Statement of Support for International Cooperation.**

**PSO**

**Special P&F meeting to be arranged with Kate Rabey, Richard Walker and Greffier re MoneyVal processes and progress.**

**PSEO/PSO**

*1225 Kate Rabey left meeting*

#### **7.2. Work Plan Update**

##### **7.2.1 Sports Centre/Swimming Pool**

Meeting scheduled for Wednesday with Avesham Young regarding scope. Proceeding slowly. Noted.

**7.2.2 Family/Children's Facility**

Early Years Provision – may be changing, geographical location being reviewed. Noted.

**7.2.3 Social Housing**

Nothing further to report.

**7.2.4 Energy Turbines, Solar Panels & Tidal**

See 7.1.5.

**08/10/2023** **P&F Working Groups - Updates**

**8.1. Finance Group**

Meeting organised with Strategic Financial Adviser and Chairman of FG to discuss the funding for Airport rehabilitation. Noted.

**8.2. Good Governance Group**

Nothing further to report. No meeting held. Waiting until new Chief Executive is in post. Noted.

**8.3 Energy Group**

See 7.1.5.

**8.4 Housing Group**

Nothing further to report.

**8.5 Alderney Airport Runway Group**

The Alderney Airport Runway Group are now meeting monthly. Next meeting scheduled for 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Noted.

**09/10/2023** **Matters other States Committees would like P&F to know**

**9.1 General Services Committee**

Biodiversity Strategy is on the agenda for Friday's GSC meeting. Noted.

**9.2 BDCC**

Update received regarding positive outcome from recent court case. Heritage list has now been rescinded. Noted.

**9.3 Economic Development Committee**

Nothing further to report – see 7.1.6.

**10/10/2023** **Reporting by Representatives**

**10.1 Alderney Representatives for States of Guernsey – Update**

Mr Snowdon updated members on the current States of Guernsey business – failed tax debate; budget and tax cap until 2025. Noted.

**10.2 AeGL Update**

Mr Kelly advised that a meeting has been requested with the AGCC Commissioners to discuss how AeGL can evaluate its performance. Awaiting response. Noted.

**Mr Kelly to produce report for P&F consideration regarding length of service for Commissioners.**

**BK**

**10.3 AEL Update**

Still awaiting reply from letter sent in May. Mr Gentle advised that he has seen a draft.  
**Mr Vooght to chase. Noted.**

**10.4 Connaught Liaison Update**

Mr Gentle advised that he is meeting with the Programme Manager tomorrow and can report back to members. Noted.

**9.5 Alderney Care Board**

ACB has met – to develop into a stronger and legal entity. Law Officers undertaking work. Noted.

**11/10/2023**

**Any Other Business**

**11.1 The Export Control (Military, Security, and Related Matters) (Bailiwick of Guernsey) (Amendment) Order, 2023** – Letter from Deputy Prow, President of Home affairs dated 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 tabled and considered.

The Committee for Home Affairs advised that the proposed amendments would apply Bailiwick-wide which means that anyone exporting controlled goods from Alderney will also be obliged to comply with the new requirements.

**The Policy and Finance Committee resolved to endorse the proposals within the paper and for any comments on the proposal to be sent to [homeaffairs@gov.gg](mailto:homeaffairs@gov.gg) by 20th November 2023.**

**PSO**

**11.2 Letter of Congratulations to St Anne's School** – The Policy and Finance Committee resolved for a letter of congratulations to be sent to St Anne's School following their recent OFSTED inspection.

**IC**

**Meeting closed: 1240**

**Signed: Nigel Vooght**

**Date: October 2023**