

**POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Anne French Room**

**27<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

**0900 hours**

**PRESENT:**

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

Mr D Smithurst (observer)

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mrs E Maurice, Temporary Chief Executive (TCE)  
Mrs L Baines, Committee Secretary  
Mrs S Pengilley-Price, Head of Govt Support (HoGS) (via Teams)  
Mr Stephen Taylor, Strategic Financial Advisor (SFA) (via Teams)  
Mr P Veron, Strategic Advisor (SA-PV) (for item 3 only)  
Mr J Laband, Project Support Officer (PSO)  
Ms H Carre, Policy Officer, SoG (via Teams) (for item 5.5 only)

Apologies: Mr S Roberts; Mr W Abel

**Declarations of Interest:**

Mr Vooght declared that he is now the Commodore of the Sailing Club, and he has resigned from being a Chairman of a Company in the Isle of Man.

**Confidentiality Reminder**

The Chairman reminded members that confidentiality leaks to provoke outcomes within the States is not constructive or helpful.

**AGENDA ITEM**

**ACTION**

**PART 1**

**01/02/2023**

**Minutes and Matters Arising**

**1.1 Minutes from previous meeting for approval – 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023**– tabled and approved (Mr Kelly abstained as was not present at the meeting).

**1.2 Policy and Finance Decision Progress Log – January 2023 Meeting** – tabled and noted.

**1.3 Matters Arising from the Minutes**

Island Plan Workshop Meeting - It was requested that the Terms of Reference for the Island Plan Group be included in the main meeting.

Price Paid Data – Mr Snowdon requested if this could be provided monthly rather than quarterly. PSO to investigate.

PSO

**02/02/2023**

**Administrative Matters**

**2.1 External Relations Update (Bailiwick Council/ALG/MOJ/Normandie)**

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

**ALG** – Nothing to report, no meeting held to date.

**MoJ** – Nothing to report.

**Normandie** – Nothing to report.

The Chairman advised that he had met with the Chief Minister of Jersey. This was a positive meeting where transport routes were discussed. The Chief Minister expressed an interest in forming a Channel Island Liaison Group where dialogue is encouraged between the islands. **Noted.**

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

**2.2.1 Future Status of Finance Committee** – Report from Chair of Policy & Finance Committee dated 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023 tabled and considered.

At the January Finance Committee meeting a draft mandate for the Committee was tabled. There was consensus at that meeting that the mandate needed review.

Queries were raised as to whether the mandate accurately represented the Committee's role in supporting the Policy and Finance Committee (PFC). Concerns were also raised by some Members that the Committee may be agreeing to responsibilities that it cannot fulfil. It was agreed that the Chair of FC, together with the Chair of PFC and the Temporary Chief Executive would review the mandate at a separate meeting.

Following the Finance Meeting, meetings have been held to discuss the benefits of the Committee on a political; civil service and legal basis.

**The Policy and Finance Committee resolved to defer this item subject to the drafting of a mandate for the proposed Island Plan Finance Group.**

**CHAIR**

**2.2.2 Finance Committee Minutes – 30<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023 meeting (DRAFT) & Nov 2022 – FOR NOTING** – Finance Committee minutes for 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023 (draft), 10<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022 (approved) tabled and **noted**.

The Chairman of Finance Committee advised that all spend is carefully monitored.

Updates on the following areas were noted:

- Pension Fund
- Coins/Stamps
- Working Together
- Audit

**2.2.3 Dairy Farm Management Contract – SEE CONFIDENTIAL ANNEXURE**

**03/02/2023**

### **Island Plan**

Meeting to be arranged for March as a strategic session. **Noted.**

**CE OFFICE**

**04/02/2023     External Transport, Economy and Renewable Energy**

**4.1. Alderney Airport Runway Group – Mandate** – Report from Strategic Adviser for Transport dated 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023 tabled and considered.

Following the resolution to constitute the Alderney Airport Runway Group (AARG) at the January Policy and Finance Committee Meeting of 2023, it was also resolved for the group to produce a mandate and submit it to P&F for formal approval.

The high-level responsibility of the AARG is to monitor the progress and workstreams relating to the overall rehabilitation project. This would ensure a coordinated approach to any work required, communication between appropriate staff, Members and Deputies, and mitigate the risk of duplication of work.

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

- **formally approve the Alderney Airport Runway Group draft mandate, and for this to be reviewed annually;**
- **note that the Alderney Airport Runway Group will be responsible for Alderney's interests with the overall supervision of the PSO and report to the Policy and Finance Committee as appropriate; and**
- **Note that the Alderney Airport Runway Group will be disbanded once the runway is built.**

SA-PV

**4.2. Seasonal Ferry Service Subsidy – SEE CONFIDENTIAL ANNEXURE**

**4.3 ACRE Update – Verbal – SEE CONFIDENTIAL ANNEXURE**

**05/02/2023     Legislation, Conventions & Policy**

**5.1 Secondary Pensions (Guernsey and Alderney) Law, 2022** – Report from Chief Executive Office dated January 2023 tabled and considered.

An email was received from the Office of the Committee for Employment and Social Security requesting confirmation that the Policy & Finance Committee is supportive of commencing the Secondary Pensions (Guernsey and Alderney) Law, 2022 in Alderney at the same time as in Guernsey – the current target date is 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 (although this may be subject to change).

This was then circulated via email for a decision from the Policy & Finance Committee, to then be ratified at the February meeting.

All members expressed unanimous support. Mr Abel commented that he would also support Alderney being included in the Revenue Services Tribunal for appeals.

**The Policy and Finance Committee resolved to approve The Secondary Pensions (Guernsey and Alderney) Law, 2022.**

**Proposer: Mr N Vooght**

**Seconder: Mr K Gentle**

**HoGS/BILLET ITEM**

**5.2 Guernsey Education Law Consultation** – Report from Mr Carter dated 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023 tabled and considered.

The Guernsey Committee for Education, Sport and Culture are revising the Guernsey Educational Law which was last reviewed in the 1970s and is now considerably out of date and in the Committee's words 'not fit for purpose'. Education is a transferred service; hence the Alderney community will be affected by any changes in this law. The Committee has published a short animation seeking to provide an overview of the current law, why it needs to change and why it is so important for the delivery of education.

In developing this new law, the Committee is seeking public input to influence the development of the Committee's final proposals that will be debated by the States Assembly later this year.

The Policy and Finance Committee approved for the prepopulated questionnaire, provided by Mr Carter, to be submitted on behalf of the States of Alderney.

Mr Carter noted feedback made from Mr Kelly on question number 9 and 11 which were amended accordingly.

**The Policy and Finance Committee resolved to agree the SoA response to this consultation and for it to be submitted by 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023.**

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**5.3 Biodiversity Strategy** – Report from Mr Kelly dated 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023 tabled and considered.

Following the publication of the Island Plan in March 2022, one of the key themes listed was 'Natural and Man-Made Environment'. The environmental goals were:

- To use States assets (terrestrial and marine) to their full potential for the public good and
- Protect and develop the unique heritage and natural environment for the benefit of the community.

One of the priorities and initiatives listed to develop the above was to put into place a relevant manageable biodiversity conservation strategy.

The level of consultation with the States Works Department was queried, as it had been made known to some members that this was not supported.

Mr Snowden requested for this to be taken to the full States for debate and approval.

**The Policy & Finance Committee resolved (Mr Carter and Kelly abstained) for clarification to be sought regarding SWD involvement and consultation in relation to the proposed Biodiversity Strategy. Once this has been resolved, GSC to place the Biodiversity Strategy on the Billet for debate.**

GSC

**5.4 Minimum Wage Update** – Report from Project Support Officer dated 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023 tabled and considered.

The Committee were advised that a meeting is scheduled with The Employment Relations Service and Officers of Employment and Social Security for Thursday this week. Mr Gentle to advise Deputy Roffey of the update to show that politically the States of Alderney is keen on moving forward.

A further update to be tabled and the next meeting.

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

**STANDING AGENDA ITEM/PSO**

***Helga Carre, Policy Officer, SoG joined meeting via Teams 1045***

**5.5 Review of the Children Law and Outcomes** – Report from States of Guernsey dated 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 tabled and considered.

The Children (Guernsey and Alderney) Law, 2008 commenced in 2010 and introduced a unique family care and justice system (“the system”) to Guernsey and Alderney. Since its introduction, the system has been the subject of numerous reviews to assess its relevance and effectiveness. The changes proposed seek to address the delays in the system which have been identified by the reviews, most notably delays which impact the outcomes for children.

**The Committee requested clarification if there have been any referrals from Alderney professionals.**

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

- 1. Agree to seek the States of Alderney’s approval of all the legislative changes to the Children (Guernsey & Alderney) Law, 2008, as agreed by the States of Deliberation on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022, as amended, as set out in the Propositions and supporting Policy Letter in Appendix 1, at the earliest opportunity; and**
- 2. Note the other, related Resolutions of the States of Deliberation made at its meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 in Appendix 2.**

**Proposer: Mr N Vooght**

**Seconder: Mr I Carter**

**HoGS/BILLET ITEM**

***Helga Carre, Policy Officer, SoG left meeting 1047***

**5.6 Asset Registry & Management – Verbal Update** – Verbal update from Mr Woodhead tabled and considered.

The Committee were advised that the Programme Manager is collecting the data, listing all States properties and working on a strategy. An initial meeting has been held, and work is progressing slowly. It is aimed to have a proforma for each property which also includes any insurances.

**The Committee requested a timetable for the next meeting.**

**PM**

**5.7 The Import (Control) (Alderney) (Amendment) Order, 2023 - Bees** – Report from Chief Executive Office dated 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023 tabled and considered.

The Committee for Home Affairs (“the Committee”) received a request from the Committee for Environment and Infrastructure (“E&I”) to amend the Import (Control) (Guernsey) Order, 2010 (“the Principal Order”), which will introduce a prohibition on the import of bees and related products from the Region of Calabria, Italy, to prevent an outbreak of Small Hive Beetle (“SHB”) occurring in the Bailiwick. Alderney has its own Import and Export Control legislation (the Import and Export (Control) (Alderney) Law, 1946) and subsequent Principal Order “The Import (Control) (Alderney) Order, 2010” which will be required to be amended by the Committee (Policy and Finance) if agreed for this prohibition to be Bailiwick wide.

If approved, the Proposed Order would come into force on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

**The Policy and Finance Committee is asked to approve The Import (Control) (Alderney) (Amendment) Order, 2023.**

HoGS

**5.8 Committee Rules of Procedure** – Report from Project Support Officer dated 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023 tabled and considered.

The Policy and Finance Committee, at its December 2022 meeting, resolved to submit the March 2022 Rules of Procedure for States Committees (Rules) to the Billet for approval as an interim measure until the Rules were revised and amended as necessary following the conclusion of the open meetings trial.

At the same P&F meeting, the proposed draft Rules to replace the interim ones were tabled and considered by Members with one amendment suggested, under Rule 6 i.e. the addition of “3 working days”.

The Committee agreed for the Rules to be sent to Law Officers Chambers for consideration and amendment.

Following those amendments, Members considered the updated draft Rules. It was highlighted that an amendment to 10b regarding the title of the Policy was required.

Mr Carter requested that the phrase ‘Including the President’ should be included under Rule 11 for the purposes of clarity.

It was also agreed for minutes of a previous meeting to be approved by that Committee membership before the members change.

**The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to approve the draft States of Alderney Rules of Procedure for States Committees subject to amendment to 10b and for these to be submitted to the States of Alderney Billet at the earliest opportunity for formal approval.**

**Proposer: Mr N Vooght**

**Seconder: Mr K Gentle**

HoGS/BILLET ITEM

**Mr Will Pierce, Head of Alderney Care joined 1104**

**06/02/2023** **Items for Development/Discussion**

**6.1. Alderney Care – Introduction to Will Pierce, Head of Alderney Care** – Report from Strategic Financial Adviser dated 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023 tabled and noted.

The Head of Alderney Care, Will Pierce was introduced to members.

The Committee were advised on the vision for the model of integrated care on the Island and the work in hand to develop this. Much input to date has been on ensuring resilience in primary care and following introduction to the Connaught, greater input is now expected into care for older people. Links with HSC also discussed, and Committee members asked a series of questions.

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

**Mr Will Pierce, Head of Alderney Care left 1127**

**6.2. Ambulance Cost Recovery – SEE CONFIDENTIAL ANNEXURE**

**Meeting Break 1141**

**Meeting reconvened 1146**

**6.3 Confidential Item – SEE CONFIDENTIAL ANNEXURE**

**6.4 Mouriaux to Platte Saline Sewerage Programme Phase 2** – Report from Programme Manager dated February 2023 tabled and considered.

In May 2021 the General Services Committee deemed the Mouriaux to Platte Saline Sewerage Programme priority and so work recommenced. A full review of the previous work was undertaken, up to the completion of Phase 1 in 2019, the laying of Le Petit Val main sewerage (pipes) as part of a trench share initiative with other utilities, following which the project subsequently closed. Following the review, focus moved to the delivery of the next phase, Phase 2 which comprises of connecting the Phase 1 to the current outfall, plus the incorporation of a pump and filtration systems.

The Chairman raised an issue with drainage regarding some properties in Allee es Fees and queried why this is not included in the programme. Temporary Chief Executive to enquire with SWD.

**The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to (Mr Gentle, Woodhead and Snowdon abstained):**

- 1. Note the report; and**
- 2. Approve General Services Committee approval of capital funding for the Mouriaux to Platte Saline Sewerage Programme – Phase 2 as per the business case at £220k, subject to adjustment and further approval by P&F and States of Alderney, (and if over £250k total by States of Guernsey P&R).**

**PM**

**6.5 Fort Grosnez Shed** – Report from EEIM & Harbour Master dated 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023 tabled and considered.

In 2022 the General Services Committee commissioned and BDCC approved some minor alterations to the inside of the shed to allow a test run for storage of the Harbour Crane. The Harbour Office have since undertaken the test run and deemed the operation was not viable. To utilise the space, the States Works Department would like to use the area for their operations. The proposal is to test move the Compactor operation to this area. **It was queried who the author of the report was, as there seemed to be inaccuracies.**

**The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to defer this item subject to further information from the relevant officers.**

**EEIM/HM/PM**

**07/02/2023**

**Items for Future Billet Submission**

- Secondary Pensions (Guernsey and Alderney) Law, 2022**

- **The Import (Control) (Alderney) (Amendment) Order, 2023 – Bees**
- **Committee Rules of Procedure**
- **Review of the Children Law and Outcomes**
- **Porcine Products – Import Restrictions**
- **Temporary Chief Executive Appointment**

**08/02/2023**

**Any Other Business - For Information & Noting**

**8.1 Community Assistance Fund – February 2023 Update – CONFIDENTIAL ITEM – FOR INFORMATION – SEE CONFIDENTIAL ANNEXURE**

**8.2 Appointment of Consul General for the Embassy of Spain – FOR INFORMATION**

An email was received from the External Relations Office confirming that the Policy & Resources Committee have accepted the appointment of Ms Bernal Garcia as the new Consul General for Spain in London, with responsibility for the Bailiwick of Guernsey.

**The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to note the appointment of Consul General for the Embassy of Spain.**

**8.3 Amendments to Criminal Justice Legislation – FOR INFORMATION & NOTING**

Letter from Law Officers of the Crown tabled and **noted**.

**8.4 Letter to of Support to P&R – noted.**

**8.5 Mental Health & Wellbeing Steering Group**

The Policy and Finance Committee resolved for Mr Carter to be the Alderney political representative on the Mental Health & Wellbeing Steering Group.

**CE OFFICE**

**8.6 The Air Accident & Investigation (Alderney) Ordinance, 2023 – FOR RATIFICATION**

An email was received from the Law Officers requesting for the Air Accident & Investigation (Alderney) Ordinance 2023 be placed before the March States for approval.

Therefore, the Policy & Finance Committee were consulted via email to approve for the draft Ordinance to be placed on the March Billet.

All members expressed unanimous support.

**The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to ratify the approval The Air Accident and Investigation (Alderney) Ordinance, 2023, and for this to be placed on the March Billet.**

**Proposer: Mr N Vooght**

**Seconder: Mr B Woodhead**

**HoGS/BILLET ITEM**

**8.7 Member Responsibilities**



**It was noted that the responsibility of the Ambulance now comes under the Alderney Care Board, as well as GSC. It was agreed to transfer this responsibility from GSC solely to the Alderney Care Board going forwards.**

**It was agreed for Mr Kelly to pass his responsibility of Home Affairs to Mrs Lin Maurice, to correspond with her GSC Police Liaison responsibility.**

**It was noted that a review of all the working groups regarding clarification of overlapping of responsibilities is being done by the civil service.**

**CE OFFICE**

## **PART 2**

### **09/02/2023    Exception Reporting & Questions by Members**

#### **9.1 General Services Committee**

Nothing to report.

#### **9.2 BDCC**

It was noted that a Policy meeting was held last week. Solar exemptions are being progressed by Guernsey. BDCC are chasing the implementation of an appeals process. Concerns were also noted regarding the loss of civil service support to the Planning Office.

#### **9.3 Finance Committee**

Nothing further to report.

#### **9.4 Economic Development Committee**

It was noted that progress is being made with working with Guernsey. Updates on the following areas were noted:

- Tourism
- Business development
- Jersey connection
- Progressing with Island Plan objectives
- Ferry proposals

#### **9.5 Good Governance Group**

First meeting of 2023 held last week. The new structure has been developed along with public consultation. The final proposal paper is currently being drafted by Law Officers. It was noted that due to new members on the GGG, the proposals are being reviewed.

#### **9.6 Energy Group**

It was noted that a document is expected from AEL on next steps and a meeting will then be organised. The Mandate is currently being updated, along with the Island Plan section.

#### **9.7 Housing Group**

It was noted that the group have met and are reviewing the mandate, which will be coming to P&F for approval.

Discussions are ongoing with AHA and GHA re further housing developments. **Noted.**

**10/02/2023      Reporting by Representatives**

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

Verbal update from Mr Snowdon noted.

**10.2 AeGL Update**

Nothing to report, next meeting scheduled for tomorrow.

**10.3 AEL Update**

Nothing to report, next board meeting scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> March.

**10.4 AHA Update**

Nothing to report, next meeting scheduled for 7<sup>th</sup> March.

**10.5 Connaught Liaison Update**

It was noted that the Connaught Board and the States of Alderney have met twice. The external care home provider has been invited by the Connaught Board to visit next week. Mr Gentle advised that he will be attending the meeting.

The partnership of the Connaught Care Home and the States of Alderney is currently being reviewed. A business plan for running the care home has been requested by the States of Alderney, as this is an information requirement in the draft agreement.

Joint press releases have been agreed going forwards.

Progress has been made with the Connaught Board, and dialogue is ongoing. **Noted.**

**10.6 Alderney Care Board**

Nothing to report, first meeting scheduled for March.

**11/02/2023      Resolutions Made**

**Meeting closed: 1.25pm**

**Signed: Nigel Vooght**

**Date: 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023**