



St Helena
Government

Environment & Natural Resources Directorate

STRATEGIC PLAN 2018 – 2021

‘We will manage and protect St Helena’s natural and built environment and contribute towards developing a successful, sustainable economy and a healthy community’

Environment & Natural Resources Directorate

STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2021

Our Vision

St Helena's natural and built assets are managed in a sustainable manner to provide for the needs of the Island now and in the future. On Island food production and food security is increased, a sustainable fishing industry is developed and the development of our natural and built environment remains central to a vibrant eco tourism economy.

Our Mission

To manage and protect St Helena's natural and built environment and contribute towards developing a successful, sustainable economy and a healthy community

Our Values

Accountability

Professionalism

Collaboration

Openness

Knowledge

Partnership

Our Priorities

- 1) *Improving our capacity to sustainably manage our natural resources for food production and forestry products and services*
- 2) *Reducing the economic and environmental impact of invasive species on our environment and Natural resources*
- 3) *Creating a better St Helena with a well managed and sustainable Crown Estate*
- 4) *Protecting the natural environment by conserving biodiversity, minimising or mitigating against pollution, waste, harmful materials and organisms and conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the Island*
- 5) *Sustainable Living*

Environment & Natural Resources Directorate

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Welcome to the Environment & Natural Resources Directorate's Strategic plan for 2018-2021

Our Strategic Plan focuses on the period in St Helena's history where a fully functioning airport is now in its early stages of operation, providing a catalyst for growth in economic development and a subsequent improvement in the quality of life for all of the people of St Helena. This planning period promises to be an exciting time for our Island and builds on the work in recent years that has resulted in a remarkable rise in our Island's development.

Our Directorate, in association with the Environment & Natural Resources and Economic Development Committees, will continue to support local food production and the development of a sustainable fisheries. We will help increase local food production, by contributing to the development of relevant agricultural infrastructure and improving our land leasing arrangements. We will continue to work with private business to develop agricultural partnerships to ensure that local food production continues to increase in quantity and quality. We will support reducing the impact of invasive species with a particular focus on weeds and rabbits to support the farming industry and the Island's conservation efforts. We want to have a fisheries resource that is managed well and looked after for now and for future generations.

We will maintain our roads and improve our infrastructure, make more land available for development and improve our public facilities and Government Landlord housing. Development of our infrastructure is essential for raising the standard of life for the people of the Island and to support the development of a tourism based economy.

We will also focus on protecting our unique environment, both on land and in the sea. We will develop regulations and policies to enable us to implement the Environmental Protection Ordinance 2016. We will work on delivering implementation of greener services such as recycling and renewable energy. We will work to enhance and contribute to the global climate change agenda and in doing so create a sustainable way of life for the people on the Island.

Derek Henry

Director

Environment & Natural Resources Directorate

STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2021

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Strategic Priority 1 - Improving our capacity to sustainably manage our natural resources for food production and forestry products and services

What is our target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
A comprehensive, enabling regulatory system in place for primary production sectors (agriculture and fishing) by March 2019.	Implement improved regulatory system for primary production sectors (agriculture & fishing)	Implement improved regulatory system for primary production sectors (agriculture & fishing)

What will we do to achieve that target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Implement a Fisheries Management Strategy and Fisheries Science Programme by June 2018. Revise fisheries, biosecurity and agricultural improvement legislation by March 2019.	Develop and implement Management Plans for 'locally designated vulnerable or at risk' fish species by December 2018. Establish and enact new pesticides, Veterinary Competent Authority legislation and revise Forestry Ordinance.	

What do we need to develop to achieve that target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Increased fisheries/marine enforcement capacity through a dedicated fisheries officer. Political and legal input for revised and additional legislative work. Appointment of TC fisheries science officer on full-time basis/call down provision. Additional funding for fisheries policing/science work/management of our fishery.		Fisheries science call down provision. Additional operational funding to support fisheries policing/science work/management of fishery.

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Strategic Priority 1 cont'd - Improving our capacity to sustainably manage our natural resources for food production and forestry products and services

What is our target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
An improved enabling environment for increased agricultural production activities.		

What will we do to achieve that target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<p>Deliver new agricultural infrastructure at the Longwood arable estate in the form of buildings, large scale rabbit proof fencing; road upgrading and additional covered production units</p> <p>Revise and enforce land asset letting policy to ensure land is utilised and managed appropriately to maximise production sustainably.</p>	<p>Implement agricultural training initiative via ESH sector development funding stream for new production and secondary processing.</p>	
	<p>Enforce land asset letting policy to ensure land is utilised and managed appropriately to maximise production sustainably.</p>	
<p>Implement private-public agricultural partnerships for production.</p>		
<p>Implement National Weed Management Strategy.</p>		

What do we need to develop to achieve that target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<p>Multi-year ESH funding provision for partnerships.</p> <p>Capital business cases for new Longwood arable estate infrastructure.</p> <p>Bids for ESH funds for training initiatives.</p>	<p>Multi-year ESH funding provision for partnerships.</p> <p>Capital business cases for new Longwood arable estate infrastructure.</p>	<p>Multi-year ESH funding provision for partnerships.</p> <p>Capital business cases for new Longwood arable estate infrastructure.</p>
	<p>Bids for ESH funds for partnership programme and training initiatives.</p> <p>Increased staff capacity for weed management, additional resources to manage invasive species.</p>	

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Strategic Priority 1 Cont'd - Improving our capacity to sustainably manage our natural resources for food production and forestry products and services

What is our target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Sustainably managed forest estate providing a range of services and products to the community.		

What will we do to achieve that target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<p>Implement proposed actions annually against forestry strategy.</p> <p>Implement policy on allowable annual forest cut each year.</p> <p>Implement weed management throughout the forest estate in line with National Weeds Strategy.</p> <p>Deliver an annual programme of firewood and saw log harvesting to support private sector wood supply services.</p> <p>Undertake an annual forest estate maintenance programme.</p> <p>Deliver an annual tree surgery programme in support of managing the Crown Estate's Special Trees and supporting private landowner requests.</p>		

What do we need to develop to achieve that target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<p>Additional funding for forest estate maintenance and improving forestry contribution to improved watershed management in and around Peaks areas.</p> <p>Funding for improving access throughout the estate and in support of watershed management actions.</p> <p>Tree surgery and special tree care training and up skilling.</p> <p>Upgrade of equipment and small machinery for forestry estate management activities.</p>		
	<p>Additional funding for forest estate maintenance and machinery and improving forestry contribution to improved watershed management in and around Peaks areas.</p> <p>Additional funding for improving access throughout the estate and in support of watershed management actions.</p> <p>Upskilling and offshore exposure opportunities for forestry management personnel.</p>	

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Strategic Priority 1 Cont'd - Improving our capacity to sustainably manage our natural resources for food production and forestry products and services.

What is our target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Protection of St Helena's border to ensure no new pests, diseases and weeds become established		

What will we do to achieve that target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Implement a biosecurity awareness programme across the biosecurity continuum.		
Implement a border phytosanitary and zoo sanitary enforcement programme		
Implement a post-border monitoring and emergency response programme.		

What do we need to develop to achieve that target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Legislative improvements in the form of changes to the Customs Ordinance.		
Capacity of the biosecurity team to manage and continually improve the Island's biosecurity system - exposure visits off-Island for team members; call-down specialist advice and training support.		
Resources to ensure biosecurity team is operationally equipped to implement biosecurity system.		
Suitable vehicle for transporting biosecurity dog; additional biosecurity needs for presence at Rupert's wharf once known once design/layout of Rupert's development is known.		

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Strategic Priority 2 - Reducing the economic and environmental impact of invasive species.

What is our target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Medium to long-term Invasive Plant (Weeds) Management Strategy implemented by June 2019	Nationally significant invasive weed species are being successfully managed at the landscape level by May 2019 A significant reduction in rabbit numbers and levels of predation on conservation and forestry plantings, crops and pasture swards by May 2019 through targeted knock down of rabbits	Nationally significant invasive weed species are being successfully managed at the landscape level. A significant reduction in rabbit numbers and levels of predation on conservation and forestry plantings, crops and pasture swards through targeted knock down of rabbits .

What will we do to achieve that target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Implement a Darwin weeds management project. Implement the National Weeds Management Action Plan. Implement a Rabbit Control Action Plan. Seek funding to implement a Rabbit Control Action Plan.	Continue to seek funding to establish and develop an ENRD dedicated Invasive Plant function to coordinate and implement key elements of weeds management strategy action plan. Implement a Rabbit Control Action Plan if funding available.	Implement the National Weeds Management Strategy. Implement a Rabbit Control Action Plan..

What do we need to develop to achieve that target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Additional funding for clearance of weeds on key areas of crown land (forests, pastures, roadsides, key conservation sites). Funding for a variety of tools for rabbit control.	ENRD dedicated Invasive Plant function to co-ordinate and implement key elements of weeds management strategy action plan on key areas of crown land (forests, pastures, roadsides, key conservation sites and assist on private land. Funding for a variety of tools for weeds management and rabbit control.	Additional funding for implementation of Weeds management strategy action plan on key areas of crown land (forests, pastures, roadsides, key conservation sites and assist on private land. Additional funding for a variety of management tools for rabbit control.

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Strategic Priority 3 - Creating a better St Helena with a well managed and sustainable Crown Estate.

What is our target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<p>Make more land available and improve accessibility to land for development</p> <p>Improve the condition of the Crown Estate</p> <p>Increase and better manage the stock of Government Landlord housing</p> <p>Improved public facilities (public toilets, bus shelters, pavements, street lighting, parking)</p> <p>Improve our infrastructure (roads– <i>alignment, drainage, lining, signage, lighting</i> and rock fall protection)</p>		

What will we do to achieve that target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<p>Implement phase 1 of the Bottom Woods CDA design to include installation of infrastructure and the release of 30 house plots and land for commercial development.</p> <p>Release 30 serviced plots in the HTH CDA by March 2019.</p> <p>Release 6 house plots (non CDA land) by March 2019</p> <p>Commence Implementation 10 Yr Operational Maintenance Plan for property, roads and rock fall protection by May 2018.</p> <p>Housing legislation and means tested rents developed by March 2019.</p> <p>Plan for improved public facilities in place by July 2018.</p>	<p>Implement phase 2 of the Bottom Woods CDA design</p> <p>Release an additional 15 serviced plots in the HTH CDA by March 2020.</p> <p>Housing legislation and Means tested rents implemented</p>	<p>Implement phase 3 of the Bottom Woods CDA design</p> <p>Release an additional 15 serviced plots in the HTH CDA by March 2021.</p> <p>New rock fall protection mitigation measures in place by March 2020</p> <p>Housing legislation and Means tested rents implemented.</p> <p>Electronic Land Registry implemented and on line by March 2020.</p>

What do we need to develop to achieve that target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<p>Secure Capital Funds for infrastructure development and effectively use the Special Funds Ordinance.</p> <p>Secure funding for development of Electronic Land Registry</p> <p>Access to legal advice UK land registry visit to train staff. Access to asbestos and rockfall consultancy services, Building Surveyor and Roads Engineer.</p>		

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Strategic Priority 4 - Protecting the natural environment by conserving biodiversity, preventing, minimising or mitigating against pollution, waste, harmful materials and organisms and conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the Island.

What is our target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<p>On-going enactment of 20% of the requirements under the Environmental Protection Ordinance (EPO).</p> <p>Formal adoption of at least 80% of the secondary legislation and supporting policies, guidelines and procedures to facilitate the implementation of the Environmental Protection Ordinance (EPO) by March 2019.</p>	<p>On-going enactment of 80% of the requirements under the EPO.</p> <p>Formal adoption of the identified remaining secondary legislation and supporting policies, guidelines and procedures to facilitate the implementation of the Environmental Protection Ordinance (EPO) by March 2020.</p>	<p>On-going enactment of at least 80% of the requirements under the EPO.</p>

What will we do to achieve that target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<p>Ongoing development and implementation of EPO Action Plan.</p> <p>Develop draft or existing policies, guidelines and procedures and where none exist develop new ones.</p> <p>Develop regulations.</p>	<p>Ongoing development and implementation of EPO Action Plan.</p> <p>Develop draft or existing policies, guidelines and procedures and where none exist develop new ones.</p> <p>Develop regulations.</p>	

What do we need to develop to achieve that target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<p>Specialist technical and legislative drafting input.</p> <p>Ongoing staff training and development.</p> <p>Ongoing public awareness and education</p> <p>Access to specialist input and support</p>	<p>Specialist technical and legislative drafting input.</p> <p>Ongoing staff training and development.</p> <p>Ongoing public awareness and education</p> <p>Access to specialist input and support</p>	<p>Ongoing staff training and development.</p> <p>Ongoing public awareness and education</p> <p>Continued access to specialist input and support</p>

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Strategic Priority 4 (continued) - Protecting the natural environment by conserving biodiversity, preventing, minimising or mitigating against pollution, waste, harmful materials and organisms and conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the Island.

What is our target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<p>Develop waste to energy technology and infrastructure on island.</p> <p>Establish commercial recycling of high value / volume waste streams.</p>	<p>10% reduction of recyclable waste to landfill.</p>	<p>20% reduction of recyclable waste to landfill.</p>
<p>What will we do to achieve that target?</p>		

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<p>Implement a Waste Management Strategy focussing on 'reduce, reuse and recycling', and waste prevention, in line with the waste hierarchy.</p>	<p>Work in partnership with SAOT's to identify and implement synergies for improved waste management.</p> <p>Develop regulations.</p> <p>Develop a 'Charging for Waste' structure, to recover the cost of waste management and create a more sustainable service.</p>	

What do we need to develop to achieve that target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<p>Legislative and financial support for the development of a Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) at HPLS.</p>	<p>Develop systems and processes to manage hazardous waste in line with environmental best practice.</p>	

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Strategic Priority 4 cont'd - Protecting the natural environment by conserving biodiversity, preventing, minimising or mitigating against pollution, waste, harmful materials and organisms and conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the Island.

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Produce Terrestrial Biodiversity Conservation Strategy to inform conservation management & fulfil St Helena's international biodiversity obligations	Implement Terrestrial Biodiversity Conservation Strategy	

What will we do to achieve that target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Secure project funding for Strategy Officer Review existing documentation Produce Strategy document	Implement strategy	

What do we need to develop to achieve that target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Seek project funding		
Map all endemic habitat areas island wide		
Assess biodiversity value of endemic habitat areas		
Complete National Conservation Area Management Plans		

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Strategic Priority 5 - Supporting Sustainable Living

What is our target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Implement the Climate Change Policy.		
Increase renewable energy as share of total electricity generation to 100% by 2022.		

What will we do to achieve that target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Identify and prioritise measures to minimise green house emissions at 2010 levels or less.		
Implement Climate Change Action plans for key area of Island life (infrastructure and the built environment, energy, tourism, marine and terrestrial ecosystems, food security, water resources and human health)		

What do we need to develop to achieve that target?

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Secure external funding (e.g. Darwin Plus) to implement Action Plans.		

Environment & Natural Resources Directorate

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To manage and protect St Helena's natural and built environment and contribute towards developing a successful, sustainable economy and a healthy community

Accountability

- Understanding that our actions have consequences and striving to be fully accountable for the advice we impart and activities and services we undertake

Professionalism

- Acting professionally in our dealings with staff, clients, community and organisations we work with.

Collaboration

- Committed to working together productively with partners and stakeholders to further the objectives of the Directorate.

Openness

- Working to enable a Directorate that promotes transparency and positive communication with staff, clients, community and partners, in support of our mission.

knowledge

- Striving to always be learning and up-skilling to inform future decision-making, planning, best practice actions and delivery of roles and responsibilities.

Partnership

- Recognising that partnership working within ENRD and externally is critical to our Directorate's success.
- Working to maintain existing partnerships and develop new ones.