

Minutes of the Meeting of Executive Council held on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 9:30am in the Council Chamber

Present: Her Excellency the Governor (Mrs L Honan)  
The Hon Acting Chief Secretary (Mrs G A Francis)  
The Hon Financial Secretary (Mr D L Richards)  
The Hon Acting Attorney General (Mr A Cansick)  
The Hon A A Green  
The Hon C R Beard  
The Hon Ms C L Scipio  
The Hon D F Thomas  
The Hon R K Yon

In Attendance: Head of Governor's Office (Miss L McMorran)  
Clerk of Councils (Miss Anthea Moyce)  
Head of Corporate Support (Mrs C A George)

Apologies: Hon Chief Secretary, Mrs S O'Bey  
Hon LA Henry – on overseas business

**OPEN SESSION**

36.1 Welcome

The Governor welcomed all to the meeting, especially the Hon Clint Beard who had been appointed as a temporary Member of Executive Council whilst the Hon Lawson Henry was absent on overseas business.

36.2 Road Traffic (Fees Amendment) Regulations, 2018 (ExCo Memo No. 52/2018)

The Chairman of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee introduced the Memorandum. The fees and charges had been reviewed by the Police Directorate during the 2018/19 budget preparation process, and the Environment and Natural Resources Committee had agreed to the proposed increases on the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

Council noted that the last increase in fees and charges, by 10%, was in April 2013. It was also noted that an increase of 17% would be necessary to reflect inflation since the last increase. Such a high increase had, however, not been supported but increases had nevertheless been agreed, with the proposed new fees rounded up or down to the nearest 50p or £1 for ease of administration. It was also noted that it was proposed that increases should occur at more frequent intervals in future to avoid significant increases being required to keep pace with inflation. Providing that licencing of vehicles continue at its current level, it is anticipated that revenue of £21k could be generated in a full financial year, with £9k predicted to be recouped as additional revenue for the remainder of the current financial year.

On reviewing the draft Regulations, Council noted that the following amendments were required:

Section 1.6 delete "41.00" alongside "Special vehicle (not included in item 1.7) including—

Section 8.1.2 add “22 ton” to be consistent with the way in which other weights were set out in the draft Regulations

With regard to publicity, the Chairman, ENRC explained that a draft press release had been prepared which would be issued by the SHG Press Office if the increases were approved.

**Following discussion, Council advised and the Governor agreed, that the Road Traffic (Fees Amendment) Regulations, 2018 should be brought into force with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2018, subject to the minor amendments identified being made.**

**(Action: Acting Attorney General/ Clerk of Councils)**

36.3 Confirmation of the Open Session Minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

The open session minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018 were confirmed subject to one amendment:

- Page 3 Paragraph 35.4.5 Protocols for Recording Executive Council

Line 4 delete “be edited to”

36.4 Matters Arising from the Open Session Minutes of 11 October 2018

36.4.1 (35.4.2) Increase in the Minimum Income Standard for the Up-rating of Income Related Benefits and Basic Island Pension 2018

The Financial Secretary reported that he had reviewed the year-end financial forecasts that were submitted by the Directorates. He advised that no savings have been identified by Directorates and it would therefore be necessary for the Social and Community Development Committee to be made aware that the additional funding required to enable this increase to go ahead would have to be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund. It was intended that the increase would be backdated to the 01<sup>st</sup> November 2018.

**(Action: Hon Financial Secretary / Hon Anthony Green)**

36.4.2 (35.4.3) Matters Arising from the 2016/17 SHG Financial Statements Audit

The Financial Secretary advised that work relating to the definition of ‘close of accounts’ was still pending.

**(Action: Hon Attorney General)**

36.4.3 (35.4.4) Pharmacists (Qualifications) Regulations, 2018

**The Chairman of the Public Health Committee reported that draft regulations were being prepared by the Attorney General’s Chambers and would be ready for presentation in the next Executive Council meeting.**

**(Action: Hon Attorney General / Hon Derek Thomas)**

36.4.4 (35.4.6) Guidelines for Executive Council

**The Acting Chief Secretary advised that she anticipated that the revised guidelines would be presented at the next Executive Council meeting.**

**(Action: Hon Acting Chief Secretary)**

36.4.5 (35.4.8) Medical Services Overseas (MSO) Contract

The Chairman of the Public Health Committee advised that the review of the contract had been completed and circulated to all Elected Members. The review demonstrated that value for money was being achieved and contained five recommendations for further improvements within the coming year. **It will be discussed with Elected Members in the next informal Legislative Council meeting.**

**(Action: Hon Derek Thomas/Clerk of Councils)**

36.4.6 (35.4.9) Social Impact Assessment (SIA) of the MOU

**The Acting Chief Secretary confirmed that Tom Holvey was still to finalise the draft SIA. However, the draft is with the SHG Economist for review. Acting Chief Secretary stated she will check with the Economist on progress.**

**(Action: Hon Acting Chief Secretary)**

36.5 Any Other business

36.5.1 Legislative Programme

The Governor reported that the Legislative Programme was discussed with Members in HE the Governor's Meeting and the Clerk of Councils was progressing the updates. It would be presented at the next Executive Council Meeting.

**(Action: Acting Chief Secretary / Clerk of Councils)**

36.5.2 Flag for St Helena's Airport

The Hon Christine Scipio raised the question as to why there is no flag of St Helena at St Helena Airport. Head of Corporate Support gave an update, stating that the original flag provided for this purpose had been deemed to be of poor quality and would not represent a good image for the island. The Garter of Arms is currently redesigning the image for the flag and would commence work on this in December 2018.

36.5.3 UK's Tentative List of World Heritage Sites

The Hon Christine Scipio requested an update on the undertaking made at the formal Legislative Council Meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018, by the Hon Chief Secretary, who undertook to ascertain whether a mandate has been given by elected Members for the Tourist Office to progress St Helena's position on the UK's Tentative List of World Heritage Sites. It was agreed that a report would be circulated to Members.

**(Action: Governor / Chief Secretary)**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.35 am.



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Clerk of Councils

Lisa Honan

.....  
Governor

27<sup>th</sup> November 2018

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Date