

S.P. 25/26



**St Helena  
Government**

**ST HELENA GOVERNMENT  
SPECIAL WARRANT NO. 1 OF 2025/26**

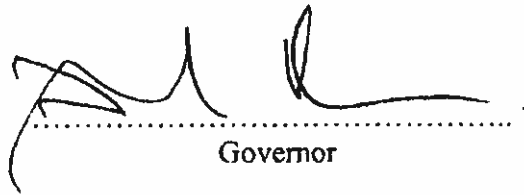
**LAYS UPON THE TABLE 7 MAY 2026**

**SPECIAL WARRANT**To: The Financial Secretary

Whereas it has become necessary in the interests of the Public Service to incur certain Expenditure not provided for on the Estimates, as set forth in the subjoined Schedule.

You are hereby, authorised and required to pay from the Consolidated Fund the sum of **£3,500,000 (Three Million, Five Hundred Thousand Pounds)** and to charge it to the Heads and Sub-heads of Expenditure specified in the Schedule.

And for so doing this together with the proper Accounts, Certificates and Acquittances shall be your sufficient warrant and discharge.



.....  
Governor

Date: 20 February 2026

**SCHEDULE**

Particulars	To be charged to		£
	Head	Sub-head	
SHG Locally Funded Projects Special Fund for the purpose of procuring essential Airport Equipment	17	1706	£3,500,000
	<b>Total</b>		<b>£3,500,000</b>

*(Special Warrants are to be prepared in triplicate and copies to be filed in the Offices of the Chief Secretary, Financial Secretary and Chief Auditor)*

## Application for a Special Warrant under Head and Sub-heads

### Shown overleaf

As a result of a fault developed on all three fire tenders at the St Helena Airport, on 6 February 2026 commercial air services were suspended and the airport was initially closed. The Airport then operated as a category 4 airport before returning to a category 6 on completion of the rectification works to the fire tenders on 15 February 2026. The resumption of commercial air services to the island commenced on 17 February 2026. Whilst normal service has been restored, the risk of another major issue materialising given the age and the condition of the current vehicles is not something that should be underestimated and it is deemed a further intervention to reduce the risk is needed.

The current vehicles are more than 10 years old and are scheduled to be replaced in the coming years. Options have been explored to purchase or lease new fire tenders for the airport as these are specialist vehicles which cannot be bought off the shelf and generally have a 6 – 12 month lead in time. Options available are limited. Two new fire tenders have been identified which meet the specification for the airport. These appliances are available early in the new financial year however they are currently on the production line. To secure this order confirmation must be received by 20 February 2026, if not the next available order that meets the required specification cannot be accommodated until approximately October 2026 arriving St Helena towards the end of the next financial year.

Given the urgency of needing to confirm and secure the order, a special warrant is required to allow up to £3,500,000 to be paid into the Locally Funded Projects Special Fund which will be used to fund the two new fire tenders.

There is no current provision within existing budgets to cover this expenditure. With significant negative implications for commercial air services and the wider economy as a result of a further airport closure, this expenditure is therefore considered to be urgent and unforeseen. The UKG through the FCDO has agreed to provide additional Financial Aid of £3,500,000 to support the procurement of the two new fire tenders. Accordingly, Executive Council has advised that this Special Warrant should be raised. I concur with this advice.

### Summary of Application

Head	Sub-head	Approved Estimate £	This Application £	Revised Total £	Expected Savings		
					Head	Sub-head	£
17	1706	0	3,500,000	3,500,000	Financed from additional financial aid received from UKG		
<b>Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>3,500,000</b>	<b>3,500,000</b>		<b>3,500,000</b>	

Financial Secretary

Date: 20 February 2026