



St Helena
Government

ST HELENA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SELECT COMMITTEE 1

FOURTH REPORT
RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOW-UP
30TH MARCH 2026

Laid upon the Table 17 July 2026



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF ST HELENA

Select Committee 1

Fourth Report

30 March 2026

Recommendations Follow-Up

Inquiry 2	ENRP: Farming Support, Land Use Review and Poultry Production (Day Old Chicks / Incubation Unit).
Inquiry 1	ENRP and H&SC: Fisheries – A Cross-Functional Review
Inquiry 3	H&SC: Provision of Facilities and Services

Select Committee 1

Constitutional Role of Select Committee 1 (SC1)

SC1 is a Select Committee of the Legislative Council, with its constitutional role defined by Section 69A of the St Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha Constitution (Amendment) Order 2021, and the Select Committees (Establishment) Order 2022.

As a statutory body, SC1's primary function is to independently scrutinise the decisions, policies, and activities of the St Helena Government.

SC1 is specifically responsible for reviewing and monitoring the following government sectors:

1. **Health and Social Care**
2. **Environment, Natural Resources, and Planning**
3. **Education, Skills, and Employment**

SC1 operates independently of the Government and is not subject to the direction or control of the Governor, the Executive Council, or any other authority. The Committee has the power to compel the Chief Secretary and any Portfolio Director to attend Committee meetings and provide oral evidence. Additionally, the Chair has the authority to request the attendance of other public officers through the Chief Secretary or relevant Portfolio Director and may invite non-public officers to attend and contribute to discussions on matters under review by the Committee.

The scrutiny function of SC1 plays a critical role in ensuring good governance, holding the St Helena Government accountable to the public.

Current membership

Chair	Hon. Robert Midwinter
Member	Hon. Julie Thomas
Member	Hon. Ronald Coleman
Member	Hon. Dennis Leo

Powers

The Committee is one of two Select Committees, the powers of which are set out in the Select Committees (Establishment) Order, 2022, and the Standing Orders of the Legislative Council. These are available to view on the St Helena Government website, <https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/legislative-council/>.

Staff

The current Secretary of the Committee is Marita Bagley.

Contact Information

All correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary of SC1 at marita.bagley@sainthelena.gov.sh, or telephone number 23179.

Contents

Introduction	4
Report – Inquiry 2	5
Report - Inquiry 1	7
Report - Inquiry 3	10
Conclusion	14
Formal Minutes	15
Witnesses	16
Annex 1: Published Written Evidence	17

Introduction

On 30 March 2026, SC1 held its fifth formal hearing. The purpose of this live evidence session was to provide Committee Members, relevant Portfolio Directors, and the new Ministerial Team with an opportunity to:

1. Assess the progress made on the implementation of recommendations from three previous Inquiries.
2. Validate whether the recommendations have been adequately addressed and evidenced.
3. Identify challenges and barriers where improved coordination and shared prioritisation could help move things forward.
4. Establish what practical steps can now be taken to deliver on what was initially recommended.

The session seeks to support ongoing improvements, ensure the community benefits fully from the agreed recommendations, and confirm that the direction of progress remains consistent, despite changes in government.

The hearing was structured into three sessions, each focused on one of the following Inquiries:

- **Inquiry 2:** ENRP - Farming Support, Land Use Review, and Poultry Production (Day Old Chicks / Incubation Unit)
- **Inquiry 1:** ENRP and H&SC - Fisheries – A Cross-Functional Review
- **Inquiry 3:** H&SC - Provision of Facilities and Services

Purpose and Context

This report presents SC1's assessment of progress against recommendations arising from its previous inquiries, as reviewed during the live hearing of 30 March 2026. It is intended to:

- Provide a transparent and evidence-based account of progress
- Distinguish clearly between completed, partially completed, and outstanding actions
- Highlight tangible improvements alongside continuing weaknesses
- Quantify progress using a percentage completion rate, including sub-recommendations

The Committee reiterates that its role is scrutiny, not administration, and that progress is assessed against the intent of recommendations, not simply whether activity has commenced.

All findings below are based solely on oral evidence provided during the hearing and explicitly acknowledged documentation.

Report – Inquiry 2 – ENRP Farming Support, Land Use and Poultry Production

Inquiry 2 - ENRP - Farming Support, Land Use Review, and Poultry Production (Day Old Chicks / Incubation Unit), examined structural weaknesses in agricultural policy, livestock support, land use management and data transparency. Many recommendations were explicitly designed to bridge the gap pending the development of a new Agricultural Policy.

A recurring feature in portfolio responses remains reliance on *future policy completion* rather than current delivery.

Status by Recommendation (including sub-recommendations)

Recommendation	Pre-Hearing Status	Post-Hearing Status	Summary of Evidence / Discussion
1 – Day-old chicks imports	Completed	Completed (strengthened)	Minister confirmed imports are now consistent and have stabilised supply, addressing earlier disruptions.
2a – Animal census analysis	Started	Completed (validated)	Data is being actively analysed internally; used to inform planning, though not routinely published. Work underway to identify key producers; however, not yet formalised as a comprehensive island-wide register. Engagement with key producers confirmed, but limited evidence of structured, regularised meetings.
2b – Poultry register		Started	
2c – Six-monthly meetings		Started	
3 – Parent stock consultation	Completed	Completed	Minister indicated engagement has begun, though no formal consultation outcomes presented.
4 – Forestry/agricultural land policy	Started	Started (policy-linked)	Work ongoing but explicitly tied to development of Agricultural Policy; no immediate outputs.
5 – Lease schedules	Not started	Not started	Confirmed dependent on policy finalisation; no interim delivery.
6a – Crown land farmer register	Not Started	Completed (internally)	Portfolio confirmed internal register exists; however, not publicly accessible or comprehensive. Work underway to extend register to grant recipients; still incomplete.
6b – Island-wide farmer register	Not Started	Started	
7a – Animal husbandry policy update	Completed	Completed (expanded)	Policy extended to additional species, demonstrating continued development.
7b – Operational support & funding	Completed	Completed (demonstrated)	Feed subsidies and support schemes confirmed as active and sustained.

Recommendation	Pre-Hearing Status	Post-Hearing Status	Summary of Evidence / Discussion
8 – Pesticide training	Not started	Started	Training has commenced, though not yet standardised or widely rolled out.
9 – Trade & production data	Not started	Started (limited)	Data being collected but not consistently published; transparency remains limited.
10 – Compliance framework	Not started	Not started	No evidence of progress toward enforcement powers or inspection framework.

Total Agriculture items (including subs): 10

Improvements Identified

- Resumption and stabilisation of day-old chicks' importation
- Expansion of Animal Husbandry Policy to additional species

These represent practical gains, particularly where portfolios retained operational control.

Areas for Improvement

- Lack of publicly available data on production and subsidies
- Registers remain internal and incomplete
- Heavy reliance on the future Agricultural Policy to unlock multiple recommendations
- Compliance and enforcement mechanisms remain aspirational
- Improved monitoring of key poultry producers
- Progress toward structured farmer registers

Completion Rate – Agriculture

Pre-Hearing Status

Category	Red Not Started	Amber - Started	Green Completed	Total
Count	5	2	3	10
Percentage	50%	20%	30%	100%

Post-Hearing Status

Category	Red Not Started	Amber - Started	Green Completed	Total
Count	2	5	3	10
Percentage	20%	50%	30%	100%

Report – Inquiry 1 – ENRP & H&SC Fisheries – A Cross Functional Review

Inquiry 1 - ENRP and H&SC - Fisheries – A Cross-Functional Review, addressed fragmented governance, enforcement ambiguity and public confusion arising from fisheries policy spanning multiple portfolios. Since the inquiry, much work has been subsumed into a wider Fisheries Review, affecting delivery timelines.

Status by Recommendation (including sub-recommendations)

Recommendation	Pre-Hearing Status	Post-Hearing Status	Summary of Evidence / Discussion
1a – Local vs export clarity	Started	Started	Ministers acknowledged ongoing confusion; work tied to broader fisheries review.
1b – Policy options paper	Started	Completed	Paper completed and feeding into fisheries reform work.
1c – Form New policies	Not Started	Not started	No direct evidence or update was provided during the hearing regarding the development of new standalone fisheries policies. Discussion focused more broadly on the ongoing Fisheries Review process.
1d – New Policies to account form Fish Canning facility	Not Started	Not started	No specific reference was made to policy development linked to the fish canning facility. Any relevant considerations appear to sit within the wider Fisheries Review but were not explicitly addressed.
1e – Include policies into SHG Legislative Programme	Not Started	Not started	While legislative reform was discussed in general terms, there was no clear confirmation that fisheries policies have been formally included within the SHG Legislative Programme.
2a – Public compliance awareness	Started	Started	Some communication occurs, but no structured or sustained public awareness programme.
2b – Complaints processes			Roles between portfolios clarified internally but not widely communicated.
3 – Fixed Penalty Notices	Started	Completed (with limitation)	Legal framework confirmed, but implementation dependent on regulations.

Recommendation	Pre-Hearing Status	Post-Hearing Status	Summary of Evidence / Discussion
4a – Equal inspection regime	Not Started	Started	Ministers indicated inspections occur, but consistency across vessels not fully demonstrated.
4b – Licence wording on inspection			No evidence this has been formally addressed in licence conditions.
5 – Resourcing constraints	Not Started	Started	Acknowledged as an ongoing limitation affecting enforcement and delivery.
6 – Portfolio gap analysis	Started	Started	Work underway, now subsumed into the Fisheries Review process.
7 – Yacht mooring licence condition	Completed	Completed	Confirmed resolved through amendment to licence requirements.
8 – Spear-fishing reform	Started	Started	Still under consideration within the wider legislative reform programme.

Total Fisheries items (including subs): 12

Improvements Identified

- Regulatory framework for Fixed Penalty Notices approved, awaiting enactment
- Policy work completed and preserved through integration into fisheries review
- Practical resolution of yacht mooring licence anomaly

Areas for Improvement

- Acknowledgement of silo working and commitment to reform
- Long delivery timelines tied to future legislation
- Lack of clear public-facing compliance guidance
- Inconsistent inspection understanding
- No firm timetable for advisory boards or regulations

Completion Rate – Fisheries

Pre-Hearing Status

Category	Red Not Started	Amber - Started	Green Completed	Total
Count	5	6	1	12
Percentage	42%	50%	8%	100%

Post-Hearing Status

Category	Red Not Started	Amber - Started	Green Completed	Total
Count	3	6	3	12
Percentage	25%	50%	25%	100%

Report – Inquiry 3 – H&SC – Provision of Facilities and Services

Inquiry 3 - H&SC - Provision of Facilities and Services, focused on service quality, prevention, equipment, workforce sustainability and long-term demographic pressures. Compared to other portfolios, Health & Social Care demonstrated more tangible delivery, though some items marked “completed” require clearer distinction between pre-existing arrangements and post-inquiry action.

Status by Recommendation (including sub-recommendations)

Recommendation	Pre-Hearing Status	Post-Hearing Status	Summary of Evidence / Discussion
1.1 – Patient feedback	Started	Started	Forms are in use but not yet embedded as a consistent system-linked monitoring tool.
1.2 – Feedback tool be user friendly.	Started	Started	Feedback mechanisms referenced generally; however, no evidence of system-wide integration or formal monitoring approach.
1.3 – Feedback tool be designed for various levels of literacy.	Started	Started	Some engagement with patients occurs, though no structured framework or reporting mechanism was clearly evidenced.
1.4 – Data is fed into existing processes with trend reports.	Completed	Completed	No direct reference was made during the hearing to additional feedback system enhancements or escalation processes.
2.1 – Develop and launch a Public Information Campaign.	Started	Started	Measures introduced (e.g. follow-up processes), but impact not yet quantified.
2.2 – Campaign to encourage responsible appointment management.	Started	Started	Operational steps implied through discussion on service pressures, but no specific data or outcomes presented.
2.3 – Campaign delivered across multiple platforms.	Started	Started	Ongoing management of appointments acknowledged, though no structured improvement programme evidenced.
3.1 – Neonatal incubator (business case)	Started	Completed	Funding secured and equipment procured.
3.2 – Procurement/commissioning	Started	Completed	Equipment now in place and operational.
3.3 – Engage with potential partners for targeted funding.	Started	Started	Broader neonatal service improvements implied, but no specific additional delivery confirmed.

Recommendation	Pre-Hearing Status	Post-Hearing Status	Summary of Evidence / Discussion
4.1 – Service delivery review	Completed	Partially Completed	Some review undertaken, though not fully concluded or evidenced.
4.2 – Specialised facilities feasibility	Completed	Completed	Assessments undertaken and factored into planning.
4.3 – Community infrastructure use	Completed	Completed	Work underway with partners such as Zero–19 services.
4.4 – Long term integration	Started	Started	Still being incorporated into wider strategic planning.
5.1 – Diabetes services	Completed	Completed	Structured services in place supporting prevention and management.
5.2 – School nurse programme	Completed	Completed	Programme confirmed active within community health services.
5.3 – Strategic integration (children’s services)	Completed	Completed	Multi-agency collaboration evident.
6.1 – Triage information	Started	Started	Information shared mainly via radio; no multi-channel rollout confirmed.
6.2 – Responsible use campaign	Started	Started	Early stages; no sustained campaign evidenced.
6.3 – Multi channel communications	Started	Started	Remains limited beyond traditional communication methods.
7.1 – Care Certificate	Started	Completed	Embedded as standard workforce requirement.
7.2 – Workforce strategy	Completed	Completed	Strategy in place including succession planning.
7.3 – Advanced training partnerships	Started	Started	Engagement ongoing with UK Health Security Agency.
7.4 – E learning platforms	Completed	Completed	Systems in use for workforce development.
7.5 – Education pathway alignment	Started	Started	Progress ongoing but not fully realised.
7.6 – International recruitment	Started	Started	Active recruitment addressing workforce gaps.
8.1 – Domiciliary care review	Completed	Completed	Service expanded to support discharge and reduce bed pressure.
8.2 – Develop options paper for Domiciliary Care Expansion.	Completed	Completed	No direct evidence presented on further development or outcomes linked to this recommendation.

Recommendation	Pre-Hearing Status	Post-Hearing Status	Summary of Evidence / Discussion
8.3 – Prioritise investment to prevent delayed hospital discharges for Domiciliary patients.	Started	Started	Continued service pressures and delivery noted, but no specific improvement milestone evidenced.
8.4 – Encourage engagement with UKHSA to explore funding to pilot innovative home care delivery models.	Started	Started	Ongoing work implied within domiciliary care expansion, though not formally evidenced as complete.
9.1 – Foster Care Campaign	Started	Started	Campaign ongoing but continues to face cultural and capacity challenges.
9.2 – Update & Re-Issue Foster Care Info Packs.	Started	Started	Recruitment challenges acknowledged indirectly; no measurable increase evidenced.
9.3 – Host Community Information Sessions.	Started	Started	Ongoing dependency on fostering capacity noted, without clear improvement outcomes.
9.4 – Incentivise participation & streamline On-Boarding.	Started	Started	Wider systemic pressures referenced; no specific progress update provided.
9.5 – Develop long-term Foster Care Recruitment & Retention Strategy.	Started	Started	Continued work implied, but no formal results or progress indicators presented.

Total Health & Social Care items: 35

Improvements Identified

- New neonatal incubators procured
- Care Certificate embedded as workforce foundation
- Structured diabetes prevention and management
- Strong Zero-19 collaboration
- Expanded domiciliary care supporting hospital discharge
- Active international recruitment stabilising services

Areas for Improvement

- Over-classification of “completed” items where systems pre-dated inquiry
- Ensure progression and longevity of workforce training
- Inconsistent public communications beyond radio
- Prevention strategy rollout still early
- Foster care recruitment requires cultural reframing

Completion Rate – Health & Social Care

Pre-Hearing Status

Category	Red Not Started	Amber - Started	Green Completed	Total
Count	0	20	15	35
Percentage	0%	57%	43%	100%

Post -Hearing Status

Category	Red Not Started	Amber - Started	Green Completed	Total
Count	0	21	14	35
Percentage	0%	60%	40%	100%

Conclusions

Overall Completion Rate (All Inquiries, Including Sub-Recommendations)

Inquiry/Category	Red Not Started	Amber - Started	Green Completed	Total
Agriculture	2	5	3	10
Fisheries	3	6	3	12
H&SC	0	21	14	35
Total	5	32	20	57
Percentage	9%	56%	35%	100%

The Committee recognises clear progress, particularly in operational health services and targeted agricultural actions. However:

- Delivery remains uneven across inquiries
- Too many recommendations remain policy-dependent
- Some “completed” statuses require evidence-based validation

The inclusion of sub-recommendations provides a more accurate picture: progress is real, but far from complete.

Recommended Next Steps (for Committee Agreement):

- Reclassify selected items from *Completed* → *Started* pending evidence
- Require formal evidence packs for completed recommendations
- Request firm delivery timelines tied to policy milestones
- Maintain a sub-recommendation-level tracker for future reporting

Formal Minutes

Tuesday, 9 June 2026 at the Legislative Council Office, Jamestown

Members present:

Hon. Robert Midwinter (Chair)

Hon. Julie Thomas

Hon. Ronald Coleman

Hon. Dennis Leo

The Report was read and agreed to.

There were no new Recommendations, however recommended next steps were read and agreed.

The Conclusion was read and agreed.

Annex 1 agreed to.

Resolved, that the Report be the Fourth Report of Select Committee 1 to the Legislative Council.

Ordered, that the Chair make the Report to the Council.

Adjourned to a day and time to be fixed by the Chair.



Chair



Date

Witnesses

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee to provide evidence at the Live Hearing. Transcript of the hearings are available on the St Helena Government website at <https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/st-helena/government/legislative-council/scrutiny-committees/>

Monday 30 March 2026

Inquiry 2: ENRP - Farming Support, Land Use Review, and Poultry Production (Day Old Chicks / Incubation Unit)

The Honourable Karl Thrower, Minister for Economic Development, and Environment, Natural Resources and Planning
Mr Darren Duncan, Portfolio Director, Environment, Natural Resources and Planning
Miss Andrea Timm, Agriculture Development Officer

Inquiry 1: ENRP and H&SC - Fisheries – A Cross-Functional Review

The Hon. Karl Thrower, Minister for Economic Development, and Environment, Natural Resources and Planning
Mr Darren Duncan, Portfolio Director, Environment, Natural Resources and Planning

The Hon. Martin Henry, Minister for Health and Social Care
Mrs Tracy Poole-Nandy, Portfolio Director, Health and Social Care
Mrs Georgina Young, Senior Environmental Health Officer

Inquiry 3: H&SC - Provision of Facilities and Services

The Hon. Martin Henry, Minister for Health and Social Care
Mrs Tracy Poole-Nandy, Portfolio Director, Health and Social Care

Annex 1: Summary of the Written Evidence

Evidence considered during the live hearing was based on the recommendation trackers for each inquiry, together with Portfolio responses detailing progress on the implementation of recommendations arising from the three previous inquiries. This information informed the assessment of whether the recommendations had been adequately addressed and appropriately evidenced.

Inquiry 2

SC1 Recommendation Tracker - Farming 2 July 2024

Inquiry 1

SC1 Recommendation Tracker - Fisheries - A Cross Function Review 12 Sept 2023

Inquiry 3

SC1 Recommendation Tracker - HSC Provision of Facilities & Services 17 June 2025 (HSC Response Dec2025)

All written evidence will be annexed.



**St Helena
Government**



FAIRNESS



INTEGRITY



TEAMWORK

Environment, Natural Resources and Planning Portfolio

Date: 6 July 2026

Hon Robert Midwinter
Chair – Select Committee 1

RE: Select Committee 1 (SC1) Fourth Committee Report: Recommendations Follow-up

Thank you for providing both myself and the ENRP Portfolio Director with a copy of the SC1 Report regarding the recent 'live' hearing for recommendations follow-up, for our consideration.

I am happy to accept the information provided in the Report that relates to the status of recommendations that are the responsibility of ENRP and welcome the inclusion of sub-recommendations where relevant as a way of demonstrating progress.

Yours sincerely,

KARL THROWER

Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources and Planning Portfolios

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