**ST HELENA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

# ORDER PAPER

## First Sitting
## of the
## Eighth Meeting
## of Legislative Council

**26 November 2026 at 10am**
**in the Council Chamber**

1. **Formal Entry of the Speaker**

2. **Prayers**

3. **Address by the Speaker**

4. **Petitions**

   1. The Hon Ronald Coleman

5. **Papers**

   SP 39/2026 *(Hon Deputy Chief Minister)*
   St Helena Government – Order to Rectify Criminal Procedure Ordinance 1975 - Criminal Procedure Ordinance (Rectification) Order 2026

   SP 40/2026 (*Hon Deputy Chief Minister)*
   St Helena Government – Equality & Human Rights Commission – Annual Report 2025-2026

   SP 41/2026 (*Hon Robert Midwinter)*

St Helena Legislative Council – Select Committee 1 – Recommendations Tracker 1, ENRP & H&SC, Fisheries - A Cross Function Review, 6 month progress report September 2026

SP 42/2026 (*Hon Robert Midwinter)*
St Helena Legislative Council – Select Committee 1 – Recommendations Tracker 2, ENRP, Farming, 6 month progress report September 2026

SP 43/2026 (*Hon Robert Midwinter)*
St Helena Legislative Council – Select Committee 1 – Recommendations Tracker 3, H&SC, Provision of Services and Facilities, 6 month progress report September 2026

SP 44/2026 (*Hon Robert Midwinter)*
St Helena Legislative Council – Select Committee 1 – Fifth report - Labour Market Strategy

SP 45/2026 (*Hon Deputy Chief Minister)*
St Helena Government – Proceedings of Ministers Question Time – Tuesday, 13 January 2026 – Third Meeting

SP 46/2026 (*Hon Deputy Chief Minister)*
St Helena Government – Proceedings of Ministers Question Time – Tuesday, 17 February 2026 – Fourth Meeting

SP 47/2026 (*Hon Deputy Chief Minister)*
St Helena Government – Proceedings of Ministers Question Time – Tuesday, 3 March 2026 – Fifth Meeting

SP 48/2026 (*Hon Deputy Chief Minister)*
St Helena Government – Proceedings of Ministers Question Time – Tuesday, 7 April 2026 – Sixth Meeting

SP 49/2026 (*Hon Deputy Chief Minister)*
St Helena Government – Proceedings of Ministers Question Time – Tuesday, 19 May 2026 – Seventh Meeting

SP 50/2026 (*Hon Deputy Chief Minister)*
St Helena Government – Proceedings of Legislative Council – Thursday, 29 May 2025 – Second Sitting of the Twenty First Meeting

SP 51/2026 *(Hon Deputy Chief Minister)*
St Helena Government – Proceedings of Legislative Council – Friday, 24 October 2025 – First Sitting of the Third Meeting

SP 52/2026 *(Hon Deputy Chief Minister)*
St Helena Government – Statement of Expenditure in Excess, Financial Year 2025/26

SP 53/2026 *(Hon Deputy Chief Minister)*
St Helena Government – Loan Balances recoverable by the St Helena Government as at 30 June 2026

SP 54/2026 (*Hon Clint Beard*)
St Helena Public Accounts Committee – Report to Legislative Council on the Formal Session of the Public Accounts Committee held on 18 and 20 May 2026

SP 55/2026 (*Hon Attorney General*)
St Helena Legislative Council – Report by the Investigative Commission on their Investigation of an Appeal made by Hon Dr Corinda Essex

## 6. Questions

### 1. The Hon Denis Leo to ask the Hon Deputy Chief Minister:

Will the Honourable Deputy Chief Minister inform this House what procedures are in place within SHG portfolios to determine whether a vacancy should be filled through external recruitment or by promoting an existing employee?

### 2. The Hon Clint Beard to ask the Hon Deputy Chief Minister:

Will the Honourable Deputy Chief Minister provide the total expenditure on international recruitment during for the past two financial years, including recruitment costs, relocation expenses, and any associated benefits provided to overseas recruits versus local employees full cost to SHG in the same positions/grade?

### 3. The Hon Dr Corinda Essex to ask the Hon Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources and Planning:

Will the Honourable Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources and Planning tell this House what expenditure from the special fund established for the provision of additional social housing units has been incurred since 1st April 2026, and what physical progress has been achieved in relation to their construction?

4. **The Hon Julie Thomas to ask the Hon Minister for Education, Skills and Employment:**

Will the Honourable Minister for Education, Skills and Employment update this House on the progress made in implementing the Public Service Pay Progression Policy within his Portfolio, specifically confirming how many teachers have now been transitioned off the legacy 2011 Teaching Cadre onto the central pay progression scale, and when the remaining cohort will be fully migrated, if this has not been achieved?

5. **The Hon Robert Midwinter to ask the Hon Minister for Safety, Security and Home Affairs:**

Will the Honourable Minister for Safety, Security and Home Affairs tell this House when he expects photo-identity style drivers licences to be made available to the community of St Helena?

6. **The Hon Denis Leo to ask the Hon Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources & Planning:**

Will the Honourable Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources & Planning provide an update on the progress made towards achieving Objective 2, “A Productive Island”, of the Sustainable Economic Development Strategy 2023–2033, including the key actions undertaken, achievements to date and areas where progress remains outstanding?

7. **The Hon Clint Beard to ask the Hon Minister for Health and Social Care:**

Will the Honourable Minister for Health and Social Care provide the public with an update on the changes in cost that has been implemented in the portfolio from a press release dated 22 September 2026, especially looking at the Social Care and the correspondence that was sent to those impacted with these increases?

8. **The Hon Dr Corinda Essex to ask the Hon Minister for Safety, Security and Home Affairs:**

Will the Honourable Minister for Safety, Security and Home Affairs explain in detail the reason for the reduction in the maximum lifting weight for 20’ containers, and state if St Helena Government intends to take any action to mitigate the associated negative impact upon freight costs?

9. **The Hon Julie Thomas to ask the Hon Minister for Economic Development, Environment, Natural Resources & Planning:**

Given that the Fisheries Review - originally anticipated to conclude within four months - has now exceeded a year, and that the public consultation on the *Options for Policy* paper closed on 23 October 2026, will the Honourable Minister for Economic

Development and Environment, Natural Resources & Planning provide this House with a definitive timeline and key milestones for when Executive Council will make a final decision on the future model for St Helena's fishing industry?

**10. The Hon Robert Midwinter to ask the Hon Minister for Education, Skills and Employment:**

Will the Honourable Minister for Education, Skills and Employment tell this House how much has been spent on:

1. Relocation maintenance e.g. redecoration and upgrade of offices
2. New items of furniture or equipment e.g. kitchen appliances and desks

at Pilling school, the ELC Buildings, and Carnarvon Court Offices, following the decision to pause works at Harford and St Paul's sites?

**11. The Hon Denis Leo to ask the Hon Minister for Safety, Security and Home Affairs:**

Will the Honourable Minister for Safety, Security and Home Affairs tell this House what priority is the Portfolio giving to improving road signs and road markings around bus stops across St Helena to ensure the safety of pedestrians, particularly children, given the portfolio's commitment to keeping citizens safe and tackling safety issues?

**12. The Hon Clint Beard to ask the Hon Minister for Education, Skills and Employment:**

Will the Honourable Minister for Education, Skills and Employment provide the total cost spent to date on the Primary School Reorganisation Programme upgrades for both primary sites and indicate how this compares with the budget originally approved?

**13. The Hon Dr Corinda Essex to ask the Hon Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources and Planning:**

Will the Honourable Minister for Economic Development and Environment Natural Resources and Planning provide an update regarding provision of public toilet facilities at key locations such as Half Tree Hollow Playground and tourist/recreational areas?

**14. The Hon Julie Thomas to ask the Hon Deputy Chief Minister:**

Will the Honourable Deputy Chief Minister inform this House of the outcome of the review into an interim increase to the Basic Island Pension - which the substantive Chief Minister committed to undertaking later this year, in the July 2026 Budget Speech to address immediate cost-of-living pressures - and provide a clear timeline for when both any interim uplift and the wider long-term pensions review will be brought before this Council?

15. **The Hon Robert Midwinter to ask the Hon Minister for Safety, Security and Home Affairs:**

Will the Honourable Minister for Safety, Security and Home Affairs tell this House when the St Helena Highway Code was last updated, and what plans his portfolio has for ensuring that this remains current and is presented in a number of different formats that may be used to better inform the community and also visitors to the island?

## 7. Motions

### 1. The Hon Dr Corinda Essex

That this House resolves that priority be given to development and implementation of a casual work scheme for unemployed persons who are medically fit to work.

## 8. Adjournment Debate

## Written Questions

### 1. The Hon Robert Midwinter to ask the Hon Deputy Chief Minister:

Will the Honourable Deputy Chief Minister tell this Council:

- the total amount of money paid in litigation claims during the term of the last government and
- the total amount of costs involved in legal representation required to respond to all litigation where the St Helena Government (Attorney General) was the respondent during the same term?

### 2. The Hon Julie Thomas to ask the Hon Deputy Chief Minister:

Further to the Budget 2026/27 announcement that the Early Years Child Benefit (£15 per week for children aged 0 to 5) would commence implementation from 1 November 2026, will the Honourable Deputy Chief Minister state how many eligible children have been registered to date, how many payments have been disbursed, what the total projected expenditure is for the remainder of the 2026/27 financial year, and what outreach is being conducted to ensure all eligible families access the benefit?

### 3. The Hon Clint Beard to ask the Hon Deputy Chief Minister:

Will the Honourable Deputy Chief Minister provide this Council with a full breakdown of all legal spending by the St Helena Government for the last three financial years, 2023/24, 2024/25, and 2025/26, showing separately:

(a) the cost of legal counsel and legal advice provided on Island, including the Attorney General's Chambers
(b) the cost of legal counsel and legal advice provided overseas, including solicitors, barristers and King's Counsel in the United Kingdom and elsewhere if needed
(c) who authorises external legal spend and what is the approval limit before Ministers or Executive Council needs to be notified
(d) who monitors the total spend and reports to Ministers?
(e) what is the budgeted legal spend for 2026/27, what has been spent to date and is it forecasted to overspend?

**4. The Hon Robert Midwinter to ask the Hon Deputy Chief Minister:**

Will the Honourable Deputy Chief Minister tell this House how many people who are living in St Helena subject to the Immigration Control are currently in receipt of Social Benefits, and also how many migrant families are likely to benefit from the new Child Benefit Scheme?

**5. The Hon Julie Thomas to ask the Hon Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources & Planning:**

With public consultation on the *Proceeds of Crime Bill, 2026* and supporting Anti-Money Laundering regulations closing on 27 November 2026 - ahead of an anticipated March 2027 implementation, will the Honourable Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources & Planning detail what regulatory capacity, staffing, and IT infrastructure will be required within the Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA) to administer the new registration regime, and what support will be provided to small local businesses and non-profit organisations to ensure compliance without undue administrative burden?

**6. The Hon Clint Beard to ask the Hon Deputy Chief Minister:**

Will the Honourable Deputy Chief Minister provide this Council with a detailed breakdown of all monies paid by the St Helena Government to consultants for the last three financial years, 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26, showing for each consultant:

(a) What amount has been spent on consultants and how did this compare with employing someone full-time to do the same work?
(b) When consultants are currently kept on retainer basis by SHG, what is the monthly cost per retainer and what and who monitors the VFM of the retained post?
(c) How are consultants engaged i.e. through open tender or direct appointment?
(d) Who approves consultant posts?
(e) How many consultants are employed in financial year 26/27 and what is the cost to SHG?
(f) What is SHG doing to reduce reliance on consultants and building capacity in-house?

**7. The Hon Robert Midwinter to ask the Hon Deputy Chief Minister:**

Will the Honourable Deputy Chief Minister provide a detailed breakdown / flowchart of the current SHG processes involved for making payments (inwards and outwards) and processing invoices (inwards and outwards), including the number of individual steps, approvals and staff involved from initiation or receipt through to completion and advise whether Government has reviewed these processes to identify opportunities to reduce duplication, administrative burden and processing time?