

## Open Agenda

Copy No:

No: 4/2020

### Memorandum for Executive Council

**SUBJECT**

#### **BURIAL GROUNDS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2020**

Memorandum by the Chairman of the Environment & Natural Resources Committee

**ADVICE SOUGHT**

1. **Executive Council is asked to consider and advise whether the attached Burial Grounds (Amendment) Bill 2020 (Annex A) should be printed, published and presented as Government business at the next formal meeting of the Legislative Council to be held in January 2020.**

**BACKGROUND & CONSIDERATIONS**

2. The Burial Grounds Ordinance was enacted in 1895.
3. In June 2019 a new burial ground at the Dungeon was proclaimed and it was recommended by the Environment & Natural Resources Committee that legislation concerning burials be updated.
4. It is proposed that the Ordinance be amended in section 9(2)(d) so that the approval for declarations as to the uses of a disused burial ground by the Council Committee will be obtained from the Governor in Council rather than the Secretary of State.
5. This is a modernization exercise and reflects that such matters should not need Secretary of State approval. The change has been agreed by the Secretary of State.
6. There are no financial implications from enactment of this legislation.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

**ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS**

7. This proposal makes more productive use of land, increasing the time necessary to source a new land plot for these purposes.  
In terms of SEDP objectives:  
Meeting Objective 5: Improve Land Productivity.

**CONSISTENCY WITH INVESTMENT POLICY PRINCIPLES**

8. N/A

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### **PUBLIC/SOCIAL IMPACT**

**9.** This is a procedural change and therefore there will be no public/ social implications.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

**10.** No direct environmental impact. Indirectly there will be a positive environmental impact as making optimum use of available land will reduce the need for and overall land take for burial grounds in the future.

### **PREVIOUS CONSULTATION / COMMITTEE INPUT**

**11.** The draft legislation was approved by ENRC on 14 November 2019.

### **PUBLIC REACTION**

**12.** There is likely to be majority public support since the change would mean that more graves could be accommodated on the site.

### **PUBLICITY**

**13.** Executive Council's decision will be covered in the media briefing following the meeting.

### **SUPPORT TO STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

**14.** N/A.

### **LINK TO SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN GOALS**

**15.** N/A

### **OPEN /CLOSED AGENDA ITEM**

**16.** This memorandum is recommended for the Open Session.

*RKY*

Corporate Support  
Corporate Services  
6 January 2020

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