

**Minutes of the Social and Community Development Committee Meeting held on  
Wednesday, 12 February 2020 at 9 am in the Council Chamber**

<b><u>Present:</u></b>	<b>Deputy Chairman:</b> Hon Anthony Green, Chairman (Hon TG)
	<b>Members:</b> Hon Cyril Leo (Hon CL) Hon Derek Thomas (Hon DT) Hon Gavin Ellick (Hon GE) Hon Jeffrey Ellick (Hon JE)
	<b>Non-Voting Members:</b> Mrs Tracy Poole-Nandy, Director of Children & Adults Social Care (TPN) Mrs Gillian Francis, Deputy Chief Secretary (GF)
	<b>Secretary:</b> Mrs Nicole Plato, Executive Assistant, Corporate Services (NP)
	<b>Invited:</b> Mrs Carol George, Head of Corporate Support – <i>for items 2-3 only</i>

One member of the public/media attended.

Hon TG welcomed all to the meeting with a special welcome extended to a member of the public/media.

**1. Declarations of Interest**

Hon DT declared his interested for item 6 on the closed agenda. Members were reminded that they can also declare their interest as and when necessary throughout the meeting.

**(Action: Members)**

**2. Draft TORs for the Elections Sub-Committee**

CG was welcomed to the meeting. Hon TG thanked CG for producing the draft TORs for the Elections Sub-Committee. Hon GE and Hon JE had agreed to be Members of the Sub-Committee with CG as a Member as Returning officer and NP to be the Secretary of the committee. The Sub-Committee is formed under rule 16(1) of the Council Committee Rules of Procedure. Anyone who is not a member of the main Committee need HE's approval to be appointed i.e. CG and the Attorney General's representative.

CG said that in preparing these TORs, the views of HE the Governor was taken into account as well as comments from members of the public and SCDC. The TOR's were reviewed.

Hon JE felt that consultation requirements with various stakeholders can be done as and when necessary and therefore does not need to be explicitly placed in the TORs.

CG agreed to check as to whether the Elections legislation mentions the number of constituencies which might need to be amended depending on the outcome of Dr Sarkin's Governance reform.

**(Action: CG)**

Members were content to approve the draft TORs subject to CG updating the TORs to include the following:

- Timescale of 10 June 2020 to report back to SCDC on the review.
- Consideration of the number of constituencies.
- Consider pros and cons of compulsory registration.

**(Action: CG)**

Hon TG to request the Attorney General (AG) for a representative to sit on this sub-committee.

**(Action: Hon TG)**

Hon TG to request HE's approval of CG and the AG's rep to sit on the sub-committee following which appointment letters need to be issued to members of the Sub-Committee.

**(Action: Hon TG/NP)**

### **3. Review of Fees & Charges**

CG advised that as part of the MTEF process that commenced last year, directorates were asked to relook at fees and charges within their directorates in line with inflationary increases of 4.4%. If agreed by Committee the new fees and charges will be implemented from 1 April 2020.

The revised fees and charges included:

- Archives research for residents and non-residents;
- Gaming Machine Licences;
- Liquor Licences; and
- Charities fees.

Comments from Members were as follows:

- People are not getting a pay rise to help deal with the increase in fees and charges. *Hon TG said that one of key issues SCDC deals with is the people below the poverty line therefore the MIS will pick up these changes which will be reflected in IRB and BIP rates..*
- These changes should not affect the low income households; people don't have to be gaming as an example.
- Businesses will no doubt pass the increased fee onto the consumer. It was also noted that the last time the fees for Gaming Machines were increased people reduced the number of machines they had due to not being able to pay the increased licence fee.
- These include the non-resident visitors to Island who can afford to pay and should be paying full cost recovery.
- Why is there not an increase attached to the photo images at the Archives (currently £1)? *CG said that an increase had not been applied as it is just a small percentage on the £1 and it would be an administrative burden. This was a new fee introduced in the last round as recommended by Members and as a result they have raised a lot of revenue from this fee.*
- Should we be looking at other ways we can raise revenue without increasing certain fees e.g. Gaming Machines. If the licence fee was decreased then the machines could come back online and still achieve the volume of revenue. *Hon TG understood the reason for this suggestion but this would not go down well socially; we would be supporting addiction to gambling etc. TPN agreed that this would not be socially accepted. There is sufficient social repercussions not to do this.*

The Committee agreed the review of fees and charges for onward transmission to ExCo. The draft regulations was also provided and agreed by the Committee.

**(Action: CG)**

Hon TG/NP to complete the decision document and send to promotor and AG.

**(Action: Hon TG/NP)**

### **4. Confirmation of Open minutes from the meeting held on 20 January 2020**

The open minutes from the meeting held on 20 January 2020 was confirmed subject to one typing error being corrected.

**(Action: NP)**

## **5. Matters Arising**

### **5.1 Disability Legislation Update**

SCDC will ensure that the legislation from Social Care is given priority and for Councillors to revisit the priority list on the Legislative Programme. Hon TG agreed to take this forward.

**(Action: Hon TG)**

### **5.2 Information Bill**

GF still awaits the advisory note from the Attorney General and will share it with SCDC upon receipt.

**(Action: GF)**

### **5.3 Immigration Ordinance Review**

Hon DT reported that the draft policy had been sent to Officials to review and they had sent back a number of useful comments which was reviewed by the working group and incorporated in the policy. Further comments is also expected to be received soon.

NP to keep in view (KIV) the Immigration Ordinance Review and draft Policy for Committee endorsement after it has been discussed with Councillors/Officials.

**(Action: Hon DT/TG/NP)**

### **5.4 Occasional Liquor Licence**

Hon DT agreed to send NP his amendment to include with the amendment that Hon TG submitted. NP to KIV and process through the AG's Chambers.

**(Action: Hon DT/Hon TG/ NP)**