



## Economic Development Committee (EDC) Minutes

**Date:** 10 December 2020

**Venue:** Council Chamber

**Time:** 9.00 am

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Chairman</b>	Hon Lawson Henry
	<b>Members:</b>	Hon Gavin Ellick Hon Clint Beard Hon Cyril Leo Hon Miss Christine Scipio Hon Attorney General Director of Enterprise, Mr Robert Midwinter
	<b>Secretary</b>	Miss Anita Legg
<b>In Attendance:</b>		Senior Economist, Mrs Amanda Curry Brown Legislative Drafter, Ms Catherine Williams Maritime Working Group
<b>Apologies:</b>		Hon Financial Secretary, Mr Dax Richards Deputy Financial Secretary, Mr Nicholas Yon Chief Economist, Mrs Nicole Shamier Director ENRPD, Mr Darren Duncan

### **OPEN SESSION**

#### **48.1 Welcome and Apologies**

The Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting. No members of the public were present. Apologies were received from the Financial Secretary, Deputy Financial Secretary, Director ENRPD and the Chief Economist.

#### **48.2 Declaration of Personal Interest**

No personal interests were declared.

#### **48.3 Merchant Shipping Bill 2020, Memo 22/2020 – Attorney General**

The Chairman stated the importance of this bill, in order for St Helena to comply with the III Code and international obligations. As a follow-on from the previous meeting, the Crown Counsel gave a presentation, taking members through the contents of the bill.

Following discussion, the Legislative Drafter made the appropriate amendments. It was agreed to check what fines had been set in other jurisdictions and circulate to members for consideration; also to recheck on certain documents regarding s69 and s112. Members agreed in principal that schedule 3A would replace s76-79 as proposed by the MCA, which would be reworded and also circulated. The Attorney General agreed to check s106 whether this was sufficient authority to withstand St Helena's jurisdiction.

EDC agreed the bill could now be progressed through to LegCo early in the New Year, although a member raised concern that more work needed to be undertaken on the bill. Therefore the Legislative Drafter agreed to circulate the track changes on a clean bill, for agreement via email.

The Working Group were reminded that radio publicity and a sector meeting needed to be arranged.

**Action: Attorney General's Chambers**

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone and closed the meeting at approximately 10.30 am.

Minutes Approved: ..... *Carly* .....

Date: *25-02-21* .....

Chairman *[Signature]*