

St Helena Governance Reform

Independent Body

Terms of Reference

His Excellency the Governor will appoint an Independent Body to review remunerations for Elected Representatives, Ministers and Speaker's Office following the introduction of a Ministerial system of government. This activity follows on from the decision by Legislative Council in March to seek a constitutional amendment to introduce the Ministerial system, subject to approval from the Privy Council, preferably before the next General Election on St Helena.

The purpose is to make recommendations on the appropriate levels of remuneration, allowances and benefits for a Chief Minister, the Ministers, other Elected Members of Legislative Council and the Speaker's Office.

The Independent Body will be time-limited and will:

1. Review and recommend an appropriate and evidenced graduated scale of remuneration, allowances and benefits for the new roles within the Ministerial system: Chief Minister, Ministers and other Elected Members of Legislative Council ('Legislators'). The recommendations should include a recognition of the likely different levels of responsibilities and political duties each role will attract.
2. Review and recommend the appropriate and evidenced remuneration levels, allowances and benefits of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker for their roles in the new Ministerial system.
3. Prepare and deliver a final report with recommendations to the Governor within three months.
4. The Independent Body will also, as a contingency, review the existing remuneration, allowances and benefit arrangements for the present Committee system.

In carrying out the above reviews and recommendations, the Independent Body should:

1. Ensure reference is made to comparisons drawn from comparable levels of responsibility in public and private sectors across St Helena and in other relevant jurisdictions.
2. Liaise with the Governor's Office, SHG administration, present Councillors and other relevant parties as appropriate.
3. Provide a concise progress briefing to the Governor's Office at least monthly during the time-limited duration of the Independent Body.

The Independent Body will be able to draw upon, when appropriate, specialist expertise from within the SHG administration: e.g. Lindsay Shankland (HR); Nicholas Yon (Finance); Neil Fantom (Statistics); Anne Muir (Public and Social Policy). Secretariat support to the Independent Body will be provided by the Governor's Office.

Governor's Office

20th April 2021