

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TOP LINES – TUESDAY 17 MAY 2022

The Jamestown Port area was defined (by Order) and agreed to be published. This means that Jamestown has now been formally declared a Port under the Ports Ordinance, 2016.

At the meeting

- This item was presented by the Chief Minister on behalf of the Minister for Safety, Security & Home Affairs.
- Ministers noted that in order to effectively manage safe and secure port operations in St Helena and comply with our International Maritime Organization (IMO) obligations - The Wharf Jamestown, James Bay, Rupert's Bay and Valley, must be declared a Port under the Ports Ordinance, 2016. This then allows the Harbour Master and Port Control staff to exercise powers granted under the Ports Ordinance, 2016.
- Importantly though there will be no impact on any recreational or commercial use of the designated area. Defining the Port only means that the usual process for how both areas are used will still be the same, but that it now complies with the Ports Ordinance, 2016.
- The Port area is defined as:
 - In Jamestown running from the Wharf Steps along to the eastern boundary of Jamestown Swimming Pool premises and encompassing all the land there between the sea and the lowest exposed part of the cliff, and thereafter; and
 - In Rupert's Valley encompassing all of Rupert's Jetty and thereafter running from the open sea along the lowest exposed part of the cliff from the east end of the Jetty and proceeding along the south westerly side of the Valley, crossing the Valley at or about Haytown House and proceeding from the lowest part of the cliff on the north western side of the Valley to reach the sea at the north eastern extent of the Bulk Fuel Farm premises.
- Ministers noted that we must designate a Port (including Rupert's Cargo Facility), as it ensures the UK Department for Transport can approve its international security status, and thus allow it to operate officially under our IMO obligations.
- Given that the Port area encompasses both the Rupert's and James Bays, Ministers were reassured to know that if any areas of the Port need to be closed during cargo/port operations for safety reasons, the exact area would continue to be clearly defined in public communications as is the current practice.

- It also noted that the Port boundary can be revisited and redefined as its use changes over the years. This would take into account changes of use resulting from the proposed Jamestown Wharf Improvement Project.

The St Helena Government Strategy and Strategic Policy Priorities for the period April 2022 – March 2025 was endorsed.

- This item was presented by the Chief Minister who explained that the SHG Strategy provides an overview of our current social, economic and environmental position; and outlines the focus areas relevant to Government's priorities as set out in Ministers' recently published Vision.
- The Strategy is the high level plan which links the Ministers' Vision and priorities with the Ten Year Plan and describes the outcomes which Ministers' plan to achieve during their term of office, under each of the National Goals; Altogether Healthy, Altogether Wealthy, Altogether Better for Children and Young People, Altogether Safer, and Altogether Greener.
- The Strategy will be used to guide and inform Portfolio's Strategic Planning and Budgeting during the next three years and will be updated annually to take account of progress made against each of the goals.
- The Strategy also contains a Strategic Framework which sets out the Policy Priorities which will inform the Government's Legislative Programme. The policy priorities are aligned to the Ministerial priorities which are:
 - **Developing a safe and reliable Health Service**
 - **Growing revenues and reducing costs**
 - **Developing economic resilience.**

This means that in addition to delivering public services, the Portfolios will develop policies and legislation which support these priority areas.

For example the 'Altogether Wealthier' goal is underpinned by Strategic Objectives which will support economic development and will:

- Foster investment and private sector growth through an enabling business environment
- Ensure reliable and affordable air access and sea freight services are in place
- Increase export of goods and services
- Implement policies to ensure the Island benefits from enhanced and affordable utilities, including internet connectivity.