

St Helena Island 10 Year Plan 2017-2027

Six Month Review

October 2023 – March 2024

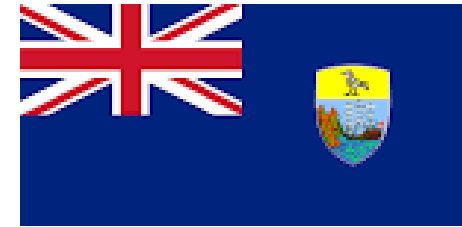
The 10 Year Plan was launched on 1st April 2017 with five National Goals. This report provides an update on all of the actions that were agreed.

This review captures progress made within the six month period **October 2023 – March 2024** in alignment with SHG Strategic and Operational Plans.

Some of the highlights are as follows:

- A total of 40 cases were taken to Magistrate Court of which 24 resulted in convictions. The remaining 16 cases are being dealt with.
- The yearly target of 10 000m² for road surfacing was exceeded with an actual of 11 615m² being achieved.
- The Mortuary project is complete and has therefore improved the overall infrastructure for the service in this area.
- The FCDO funding enabled the replacement of the CT scanner and other vital equipment across health and the laboratories therefore improving the overall capacity to undertake relevant testing and screening, which would have been referred to South Africa previously.
- The 2 year agricultural EDIP project centered on Crown Agricultural land which started in 2022, has now been completed for pasture clearance. Arable and pasture infrastructure upgrades, arable estate road and poultry housing upgrades.
- New EV Charging Station to be installed in Jamestown – Likely December 2024.
- Ministers as part of the 2024-25 financial year have agreed to maintain the zero-rated tariff for all essential goods that was introduced as part of the Cost of Living Policy in 2022. This zero-rated tariff will be in place until the end of the 2024-25 financial year.
- With effect from 1st October 2023 increases were made in IRB and BIP. IRB is £78 per week and BIP is £80.50 per week.
- Immigration Policy approved.
- A new Post Box walk created at Gill Point.
- New SURE Packages introduced for faster and more affordable internet.


While many challenges still persist both locally and globally, there has been progress in many areas.



National Goals and lead Committees





Altogether Safer			
ACTION	Responsible Officer	Previous POSITION as at 30th September 2023	CURRENT POSITION as at 31st March 2024
	 Timeline Ongoing through duration of the plan		
We will protect and empower all vulnerable people	SOCIAL CARE	<p>Social Care continues to provide a full statutory and non-statutory service on the island, however as a result of the demographics on St Helena capacity in relation residential social care beds and domiciliary. There are on an ongoing basis six patients awaiting discharge from hospital to a social care bed, resulting in the hospital providing social care for months at a time.</p> <p>Vacancy rates across social care remain high and there has been an alternative approach to employment via international recruitment from South Africa and the Philippines. The recruitment will only be achieved if the immigration standards are met based upon current legislation and requirements.</p> <p>Looked after children, care leavers, children in need of protection, children</p>	<p>The situation across social care has remained very much the same since September 2023, with vacancy levels high and all services being at capacity. The delayed discharges remain the same and on average there are six patients awaiting discharge to social care placements.</p> <p>The amendments to the immigration policy will begin enable the process of international recruitment in conjunction with the demand for additional working age staff across both health and social care.</p>

		<p>in need and children in need of early help and intervention continue to be supported in line with need. BLA and Carers reviews are all subject to review in order to prioritise the highest level of need on island.</p>	
<p>We will protect minority groups, equality and Human Rights on the Island</p>	<p>HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION</p>	<p>Our key priorities for the period have been (and will continue to be):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to introduce local Ordinance protecting those in the private sphere from discrimination, sexual harassment and bullying and to promote equality access to work and leisure activities for the disabled. • Dealing with the past and the resurgence of colonialism and the effects on island culture and tradition. • The continued absence of an SHG Strategy to reduce poverty. <p>Achieving the goals laid out in our Strategic Plan 2022-25. The number of clients unable to manage on their benefits/low incomes has continued to increase over this period.</p>	<p>Our key priorities for the period have been:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to introduce local Ordinance protecting those in the private sphere from discrimination, sexual harassment and bullying and to promote equality access to work and leisure activities for the disabled. • Dealing with the past and the resurgence of colonialism and the effects on island culture and tradition. • The continued absence of an SHG Strategy to reduce poverty. <p>Achieving the goals laid out in our Strategic Plan 2022-25.</p>


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			The number of clients unable to manage on their benefits/low incomes has continued to increase over this period.
We will provide a full legal system and protect the right of access to legal services for all		No further change.	A full legal service is in place and is available to all. Public Solicitor's fees are set out in the Extraordinary Gazette Notice dated 25 th February 2020. There are fee exemptions for certain services, with no fees being charged to persons in households with an income of less than £10,000 per annum. No further change.
We will protect our border from items/people that bring harm to the Island and have robust community policing to tackle crime	SAFETY, SECURITY & HOME AFFAIRS ENRP	Royal St Helena Police (RSHP): Development of community policing and engagement continues, with recent recruiting providing a small number of extra officers to improve proactive initiatives. ENRP: Progress has been made to have the draft policy consulted on and is ready to be presented to the ENRP Advisory Board at the end of October for endorsement. Work on completing the Biosecurity Ordinance will be left as a priority for 2024 as a result of limited resources in the AG's Chambers and outstanding priority legislation to complete for ENRP by end of March 2024.	Royal St Helena Police (RSHP): Development of community policing and engagement continues. ENRP: Biosecurity Policy consulted on through public consultation and endorsed by ExCo during quarter 3.



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<p>We will invest to reduce the risk of rock fall and continue to carry out regular checks to protect the community</p>	<p>INFRASTRUCTURE</p>	<p>Daily / weekly / monthly checks are ongoing. Other significant work: <i>May 23</i> – Rock removal Sandy Bay; Repair fence after small rock fall 10th May. Secure 3 unsafe rocks near Colin Benjamin’s residence in Rupert’s valley; <i>June 23</i> – Remove loose rocks from netting above Rupert’s wharf; Rock removal of 3 loose rocks above Ladder Hill road zone JTW4 + 5. <i>July 23</i> – Rock removal High Rock; Rock removal JTW4, break rock and repack; <i>Aug 23</i> – Build buttress wall JTW4 above Ladder hill road. <i>Sept 23</i> – Rock removal from small rock fall Sandy Bay; Repair barrier wall Side Path road x 2; Rock removal above Fuel station Jamestown;</p>	<p>Daily/Weekly/Monthly checks are ongoing. Other significant work: Oct 2023 – Strap back some loose rocks on Hillside section JTE2 zone 2 and 3, above Side Path Road. JTE 4 zone 4 removal of ¾ tonne of rock. Rock removal in various areas after rainfall. Nov 2023 – Assisted Educational section at PAS in removing bank behind Olive Cottage. Dec 2023 – Normal checks and cleaning/maintenance of netting. Jan 2024 – Rope Training/Refresher course. Maldivia strapping of rock zone JTW6. Feb 2024 – Rock removal from Rupert’s roads. RPW zone 4. Mar 2024 – Normal cleaning and inspection. Strapping of ½ tonne of loose rock Upper Jamestown JTW zone 4, above Paul Herne’s house.</p>
<p>We will proactively address anti-social behaviour</p>	<p>SAFETY, SECURITY & HOME AFFAIRS</p>	<p>RSHP: The police continue to work with other agencies to address all aspects of anti-social behaviour. Patrols are targeted at areas that suffer increased levels of ASB at relevant times. TISD - with resources in place housing have been able to start addressing anti-social behaviour more robustly with transgressors. Probationary tenancies</p>	<p>RSHP: The police continue to work with other agencies to address all aspects of anti-social behaviour. Patrols are targeted at areas that suffer increased levels of ASB at relevant times. Currently, the most significant cause of complaints is loud noise/music from premises, vehicles and hand held speakers.</p>


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		have been introduced which provide an introductory period of at least 6 months to demonstrate appropriate behaviour before being granted a secure tenancy.	
We will work with families and the community to ensure our children are safe	SAFETY, SECURITY & HOME AFFAIRS	<p>TISD - families with children remain priority when allocating GLH.</p> <p>RSHP: Total number of referrals sent to Children’s services: 42</p>	RSHP : Total number of referrals sent to Children’s services: 31
We will make those who have committed offences accountable	SAFETY, SECURITY & HOME AFFAIRS	<p>RSHP: For the period April to September 2023, a total of 27 cases were taken to Magistrates court of which 14 resulted in convictions. The remaining 13 cases were dealt with as below: 3 – other 9 – pending prosecution 1 - caution</p>	<p>RSHP: For the period September 2023 to March 2024, a total of 40 cases were taken to Magistrates court of which 24 resulted in convictions. The remaining 16 cases were dealt with as below: 3 – other 13 – pending prosecution 0 – caution</p>
	 Timeline Delivered within 3 years and reflected in Strategic/Operational Plans		
We will invest in new sewerage systems to reduce sea pollution	CONNECT STH LTD	Cold and Hot commissioning of the Rupert’s Sewerage Treatment Plant was completed in May and treatment plant process (biological) optimisation is expected in April 2024 when the plant is expected to go live. Currently the plant is being run every Friday just to maintain functionality awaiting connection of properties.	No change since last report. Connect Project Manager is awaiting a heads-up notification from SHG so that the process Engineer from the plant manufacturer can be availed for treatment plant (biological) process optimisation. Connect operations team continue to run the plant every Friday to maintain functionality.



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		Consultant has been identified and SHG procurement leading on the contract negotiation together with Connect STH Ltd.	HTH and Jamestown sewerage works: the contract is undergoing legal review. Ongoing negotiations on the finalisation of the RIBA Stage 5.
	 Timeline Delivered within 1-3 years + ongoing through duration of the plan		
We will improve the safety and conditions of our roads	SAFETY, SECURITY & HOME AFFAIRS INFRASTRUCTURE	For the period April to September 2023 the target for resurfacing the road network was 5,000 m ² . Over the period stated we achieved 3,307 m ² .	For the period of October 2023 to March 2024, the target set was to resurface 5000m ² . The actual area achieved was 8308m ² . We also manage to exceed the yearly target of 10 000m ² with an actual of 11 615m ² being achieved.
	 Timeline Delivered within 3 – 5 years of the plan		
We will build a new prison	INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY, SECURITY & HOME AFFAIRS	Following a successful Expression of Interest (EOI) phase, the Project Board has granted approval to initiate the tender documentation process for design and build consortiums to submit their bids. Although the design phase is ongoing and finalisation is pending, SHG has already accomplished preliminary concept designs. The subsequent phase involves the reception and meticulous evaluation of the tender bids.	Three bids for the Design & Build contract were received but none fully met the specifications. The next step is to explore the feasibility of a single tender route/negotiations with one bidder who proposed to use local labour in the project.

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<p>We will invest in a new fire station</p>	<p>INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <p>SAFETY, SECURITY & HOME AFFAIRS</p>	<p>The Fire Service review was sent to FCDO and the Governor to see how external funding may be identified to support the recommendations from the review. Further update is still awaited from the FCDO.</p> <p>Remains as above, land is secured however the project still requires an identified funding stream.</p>	<p>Funding stream still to be identified for a new fire station.</p>
		<p>Timeline Delivered within 3 years + ongoing through duration of the plan</p>	
<p>We will invest in youth services and develop facilities</p>	<p>SOCIAL CARE</p>	<p>Probation continue to work with offenders by means of community orders alongside completion of pre sentence reports, rehabilitation work for prison release and the youth diversion service to prevent the criminalisation of children and young people.</p>	<p>There has been a review of the service to ensure that the service is adequately resourced and delivers services in line with statutory requirements. Outside the review and very minimal recommendations the service outcomes remain the same.</p>
<p>We will invest in a more disabled friendly access environment</p>	<p>SOCIAL CARE</p> <p>INFRASTRUCTURE</p>	<p>There has been limited DFG adaptations in this past financial year due to budgetary constraint in other areas. Any awaiting adaptations will be considered this financial year and implemented in line with priority of needs.</p>	<p>DFG is no longer budgeted for within the health and social care portfolio budget and therefore adaptations have ceased. OT continue to support people with their mobility requirements in regards to equipment.</p>



Altogether Healthier			
ACTION	Responsible Officer	Previous POSITION as at 30 th September 2023	CURRENT POSITION as at 31 st March 2024
	 Timeline Ongoing through duration of the plan		
We will continue to invest in medical equipment and adaptations	HEALTH	The mortuary project is still underway and set to be completed in March 2024. The essential equipment provided through funding from FCDO has arrived and has been installed within the Lab and improved overall testing capacity within health. The CT Scanner updated by the FCDO funding will also greatly help to improve the testing capacity on island. The environmental strategy will help to inform longer term planning in line with need across health and social care.	The Mortuary project is complete and has therefore improved the overall infrastructure for the service in this area. The FCDO funding enabled the replacement of the CT scanner and other vital equipment across health and the laboratories therefore improving the overall capacity to undertake relevant testing and screening, which would have been referred to South Africa previously. The continuation of the FCDO equipment funding will enable the service to better deliver safe health services and reduce the impact on the recurrent budget in regards to ageing and end of life equipment.
	 Timeline Delivered within 1 year + ongoing through duration of the plan		

SIX MONTH PROGRESS REPORT AS AT MARCH 2023


<p>We will recruit, train and retain staff, both from the Island and from overseas, to provide a health service that meets the needs of the community</p>	<p>HEALTH</p>	<p>The health establishment has grown in line with need in regards to an increase to five x GP's which has occurred through using existing funding for an alternative post and additional funding. Five GP's meets the needs of the service over a 24/7 period covering 52 weeks per year. All GP's are qualified GP's and work within their scope of practice.</p> <p>Training of all medical officers is being undertaken on a weekly basis to ensure that all medical officers maintain their CPD standards in line with their individual registration requirements.</p> <p>The TC posts are continually being reviewed in line with need and to effectively manage the health demands safely.</p> <p>The Governance team are now established and provides an integral role in the overall governance and management of risk across health and social care.</p>	<p>The finalised structure of the health service has been established to meet the needs of the service in the short and longer term.</p> <p>The recruitment of a senior medical officer to deputise and support the chief medical officer has enabled the service to begin to focus more strategically.</p> <p>Ongoing TC replacment recruitment has to be undertaken due to the restrictions in regards to terms of employment and natural staff movement.</p> <p>The nursing and midwifery board has been relaunched in order to develop a career pathway and a governance structure.</p> <p>There are five aprepntices employed with health:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 x Health care assistants 1 x Occupational therapay 1 x Emergency care assistant (paramedic service)
<p>We will continue to educate, incentivise and support the public regarding improved healthier lifestyles</p>	<p>HEALTH</p>	<p>The health strategy and key areas of public health through specific programs continue under the management of the public health lead, which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screening 	<p>The disease registry is under way and reaching the final phase of development, which was funded by the UKHSA.</p> <p>The Health promotion team continue to work on the following areas:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole systems • Substance misuse strategy • Tobacco legislation implementation <p>St Helena have also been successful in achieving support to create a disease registry of non communicable diseases from OHID and UKHSA.</p> <p>The 0-19 service has started to develop to enable children health services and early help services to merge and deliver holistic support and intervention to babies, children and young people through to the 19 years in line with good practice.</p> <p>Exploitation training and a strategy update has been completed across health and social care to enable people to recognise the signs of this area of abuse and a multi agency response established to provide a robust response.</p> <p>The 5th Covid vaccination has been delivered in the month of September for the remaining population who did not receive their vaccine in May. People are now living with Covid, with the virus being apparent at differing times throughout the year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the Tobacco Ordinance • Screening • Finalising the substance misuse strategy • WSAO future planning for St Helena. <p>The 0-19 service continues to develop and is moving towards a multi agency approach with improved partnerships with education and social care.</p> <p>Exploitation and safeguarding training has been rolled out island wide and this pattern of training will continue for the next twelve months.</p>
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<p>We will improve and increase our Government Landlord Housing stock</p>	<p>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (Property)</p>	<p>1. Through improved management 9 properties have returned to the landlord with 7 refurbished and relet.</p> <p>2. Approval was given to use the GLH Trading Account Reserves for developing RE Yard into self-contained units. Original design works were reconsidered and a 3 x 2 bed design chosen so that homes are fit for the future – allowing tenants changing and increased needs to be met from the comfort of their home.</p> <p>Tender documents are being prepared and drainage and electrical requirements are actively discussed with CSH.</p> <p>3. There was a good local and international response to the advert for EOI for the 4 x 2 bed designs at Bottom woods. The requirements of the tender document is discussed.</p>	<p>1. The procurement for the development of 3 x 2 bed flats at RE Yard has been approved, and tenders have been invited from interested parties.</p> <p>2. The tender documents for the block of four 2 bed flats at bottom woods are with lawyers for review before going out to interested parties.</p> <p>This tender requires applicants to include features that support sustainable developments and explore alternative methods of construction.</p>
<p>We will ensure we will have access to an adequate supply of clean water</p>	<p>HEALTH</p>	<p>The food and water lab have maintained their registration with UKAS and continue to deliver a service in line with quality standard of practice.</p>	<p>At present there are no changes in this area.</p>
<p>We will employ health specialists and a full quota of GPs to meet the needs of the public</p>	<p>HEALTH</p>	<p>The health establishment has grown in line with need in regards to an increase to five x GP's which has occurred through using existing</p>	<p>At present there are no changes in this area.</p>

SIX MONTH PROGRESS REPORT AS AT MARCH 2023

		funding for an alternative post and additional funding. Five GP's meets the needs of the service over a 24/7 period covering 52 weeks per year. All GP's are qualified and work within the scope of practice.	
	 <p>Timeline Delivered within 3 years + ongoing through duration of the plan</p>		
We will build additional care facilities on the Island and aspire to deliver care to an international standard	HEALTH	The hospital provides adequate numbers of beds to meet the needs of the community on a day to day basis, however social care remains at capacity and as such people requiring social care beds are languishing in hospital for months at a time. Due to ageing demographic and the poor overall health of the community it is likely to increase demand and there are no longer term plans to increase social care facilities.	At present there are no changes in this area.
We will support increased local production of fresh fruit and vegetables	ENRP ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Development of a new Agricultural Policy was delayed but has restarted and a policy options paper is almost ready to be consulted on by the agriculture sector representatives. Remaining areas of the EDIP agriculture project (Poultry infrastructure, storage units and road improvements) has been tendered	Draft Agricultural Policy options paper has been consulted on with all agricultural producers in the eastern and western districts towards a revised paper being produced to be taken forward to Ministers in April/May. The 2 year agricultural EDIP project centered on Crown Agricultural land which started in 2022, has now been completed for pasture clearance. Arable

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		out to the private sector and is due for completion by year end.	and pasture infrastructure upgrades, arable estate road and poultry housing upgrades.
We will support initiatives that will provide affordable healthy food products	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Following a successful “Grow Local” initiative jointly organised by Solomon & Co and SHNT, with minor input from ESH, an approach was made by Solomon’s Marketing in relation to taking forward further branding to promote the themes of ‘Grow Local’, ‘Produce Local’ and ‘Buy Local’. ESH was very pleased for the private sector to take the lead on this initiative.	No further update



Altogether Greener			
ACTION	Responsible Officer	Previous POSITION as at 30 th September 2023	CURRENT POSITION as at 31 st March 2024
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="margin-right: 10px;">●</div> <div> <p>Timeline</p> <p>Ongoing through duration of the plan</p> </div> </div>			
We will continue to encourage low carbon vehicle use through tax incentives	<p>TREASURY</p> <p>INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <p>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</p>	<p>Sustainable development: Through the tax and revenue working group, SHG’s Strategic and Social Policy Coordinator has started the development of a Green Transport Policy.</p> <p>Infrastructure: New GLH will feature renewable energy sources and subject to approval require similar energy saving arrangements on CDA’s. No further update</p>	<p>The fixed duty rate import tariff for vehicles based on CO2 emissions is still in place, which charges a higher rate of import duty for higher levels of CO2 emissions.</p> <p>New EV Charging Station to be installed in Jamestown – Likely December 2024</p>
We will police illegal fishing in St Helena waters	ENRP	The Marine Compliance and Enforcement Section continues to monitor compliance with fishing licence provisions and investigate reports of non-compliance, and where necessary, take action as is required.	Nothing further to add other than no reports of IUU fishing reported with respect to fishing without licence or needing to be dealt with during the year. Reports were mostly in respect of non-compliance with log book return requirements; fish catch inspections; under-size fish catches and non-


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		Surveillance of our offshore fishery continues through the Blue Belt's MMO Programme.	compliance with restrictions on commercial use of grouper catch.
We will protect endemic fauna and flora and our agricultural sector by tackling invasive species	ENRP	As for first 6-month period. Options are being looked at with respect to how St Helena can source funds in future to tackle key invasives more holistically across sectors agriculture, forestry, biodiversity, private land and roads. A possibility is a strategic bid to the Darwin Strategic fund that OT's are awaiting to come on-line as a source of medium term funding.	Nothing further to report on progress with strategic invasive species bids being secured.
We will support community green projects and tidy-ups, and enforcement of relevant legislation regarding litter	ENRP	Waste Management Services continue to deliver their front line service which during this period included developing a day shift operation using the Glutton electric street cleaning machine in order to maintain the Jamestown street scene during normal working hours, instead of just 0600hrs to 1300hrs. This change, once implemented following staff training and selection for the role, will ensure continuity of sanitation of Jamestown throughout the working day. Sun tunnels have not been installed during this period due to the inclement weather. Littering, as an offence under section 76(3) of the Environmental Protection	Business as usual continues. Day shift WMS Operator now employed in order to maintain the Jamestown street scene during normal working hours, instead of just 0600hrs to 1300hrs. Littering, as an offence under section 76(3) of the Environmental Protection Ordinance, 2016 has been progressed, as such this has been included in the CRIMINAL JUSTICE (FIXED PENALTIES) REGULATIONS, 2022 however whilst these Regulations have been approved they have not yet been brought into force.

		Ordinance, 2016 has been progressed, as such this has been included in the CRIMINAL JUSTICE (FIXED PENALTIES) REGULATIONS, 2022 however whilst these Regulations have been approved they have not yet been brought into force.	
We will establish and maintain a Green Business Award	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	There are no plans to establish a Green Business Award at this current time, however the new Investment Policy includes an investment reform aimed at adopting international norms for environmental protections in the investment environment. No further update	
	 Timeline Delivered within 1 year + ongoing through duration of the plan		
We will encourage the use of sustainable materials such as greener building materials and biodegradable packaging through planning and tax systems	TREASURY	Energy efficient system built homes are being considered for future GLH, i.e. at Bottom Woods. No further update	The low import tariff of 5% which includes biodegradable cartons, boxes and cases is still in place. Excise duty of 10p per container for Styrofoam (Polystyrene) containers and 10p per Plastic Carrier Shopping bag made from Polyethylene (PE) or polythene (polyethene or poly(methylene)) is still in place as a disincentive to import non-biodegradable packaging.
	 Timeline Delivered within 1 - 3 – 5 years of the plan		

SIX MONTH PROGRESS REPORT AS AT MARCH 2023


<p>We will implement a waste management strategy which includes recycling and using waste as an energy source</p>	<p>ENRP</p>	<p>The Materials Recycling Facility at HPLS remains operational but is under utilised because no recyclable waste collection service has been implemented to date as this new service has not been prioritized for funding (beyond recurrent budget). Once funding is secured then this service is ready for immediate roll-out, having been fully developed by Waste Management Services.</p> <p>ADC recycling has been extensively developed through a Public – Private partnership whereby the first container load of ADC will be exported to Walvis Bay in November 2023. Waste Management Services are supporting this private sector venture, having negotiated with the current shipping contractor for ADC to be shipped void of shipping costs (except BAF and CAF admin fees). This venture will be significantly more beneficial to both the private sector partner and SHG when the aforementioned recyclable waste collection service is implemented, the benefit to SHG being reduced landfilling of ADC by collecting at source e.g. homes and businesses, not just the communal recycling hubs.</p>	<p>Development and implementation of communal recycling hubs across the island with appropriate public information and an emptying schedule.</p> <p>Increased cardboard recycling. Leading implementation of compacted and baled Aluminium Drink Cans export off island.</p> <p>Re-fencing the whole of Horse Point Landfill Site to negate costly private sector contract. Installation of Dark Skies compliant solar lighting in the Public Recycling Facility at HPLS.</p> <p>Waste Management Policy and Implementation Plan – 3 Year review completed.</p> <p>Currently awaiting a response as part of the MTEF process in respect of the 2024-25 new bid made by ENRP for a new recyclable waste collection service.</p>
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	 Timeline Delivered within 1 - 3 – 5 years of the plan	
<p>We will invest in renewable energy with a view to becoming 100% self-sufficient</p> <p><i>NB: It is not technically possible to be 100% reliant on renewables on St Helena. Our small scale and isolation will necessitate some reliance on diesel, if only for contingency purposes. This target needs to be updated in line with SHG's Renewable Energy Policy.</i></p>	<p>CONNECT STH LTD ENRP</p>	<p>ENRP: A new Renewable Energy Policy for the period 2023-2027 was endorsed by ExCo in August 2023 and is helping to inform implementation of a renewable energy project for St Helena. A Business Justification Case has been approved for EDIP funding to engage an experience technical provider, to develop final energy demand modelling and design of a cost effective and reliable energy hybrid solution over the next 6 months for St Helena.</p> <p>Connect: Key Findings from the Grid Impact Assessment (GIA) were conveyed to Elected Members and the Utilities Regulatory Authority in July 2023. Based on the findings, a proposal for legislative reform is under preparation.</p> <p>WES Wind Turbine Maintenance Report has been adopted. The accompanying WES Battery Energy Storage Report is nearing adoption, pending final cost proposals. The cost proposals will inform a business case to undertake the agreed recommendations.</p>
		<p>Connect: Information sessions have been held with key stakeholders around findings from Grid Impact Assessment. The GIA concluded that grid-connected private PV poses risk to the grid. Whilst the grid can accommodate a small quantity of private PV, mitigation is required. The hosting capacity of the grid has been reached and the moratorium on additional grid connected private PV therefore remains in place.</p> <p>Based on the findings from the WES Wind Turbine Maintenance Report, planning commenced for a major overhaul of all 12 existing wind turbines in 2024/25 using the current on/off configuration. Consideration is also being given to Dynamic Output Power Limitation: this would allow for greater yields from the wind turbines.</p> <p>The WES Battery Energy Storage Report was adopted. This recommends that battery storage is the preferred option for St Helena but not until there is increased renewable energy generation capacity.</p>

		<p>Business Case and TORs submitted to EDIP for detailed Modelling and Design for the Renewable Energy Project.</p>	<p>The procurement for the Modelling & Design consultancy is underway. The tender closing date is 2 April 2024.</p> <p>ENRP: The Modelling and Design tender arising from approval of the EDIP funding has been advertised and bids were received for the consultancy work last week. These are currently being evaluated to determine a preferred contractor for the work.</p>
	 <p>Timeline Delivered within 3 years + ongoing through duration of the plan</p>		
<p>We will have a long term water strategy for the Island, supported by adequate infrastructure, in order to reduce the impact of drought and climate change</p>	<p>CONNECT STH LTD ENRP</p>	<p>ENRP: Review of the 2011 Plan completed and recommendation made by Review Team that current Plan was not a WRMP and a new Plan be developed. A Business Justification Case has been submitted to the EDIP Programme Board for EDIP funding, to engage an experienced technical provider to develop a new 30 year WRMP over the next 9 months for ST Helena.</p> <p>Connect: After the review by the FCDO technical resource team and received feedback, a strategic case has been submitted to the Steering Committee for funding of the</p>	<p>ENRP: The Business Justification Case was approved to fund the work and an ITT work has been developed and awaiting approval to be released to the market for tenders.</p> <p>Connect: Procurement for the Technical support is being done through the EDIP Team. SHG Procurement have started the process and documents were submitted to AG for signing. A few questions for clarification have been received and the project team/board are looking at responding to these.</p>

		technical support in the development of the WRMP for the island.	
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Altogether Better for Children and Young People																																																					
ACTION	Responsible Officer	Previous POSITION as at 30 th September 2023	CURRENT POSITION as at 31 st March 2024																																																		
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We are committed to St Helenians being the leaders of the Island and we will equip them with the skills and experience to take up key posts	EDUCATION Wendy Benjamin	SHCC For the period September 2022- March 2023: <table border="1" data-bbox="638 965 1276 1364"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Sep-22 to Nov 22</th> <th>Dec 22 – Feb 23</th> <th>Mar - 23</th> <th>TOTAL</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>COURSES</td> <td>7</td> <td>0</td> <td>6</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>REGISTRATIONS</td> <td>69</td> <td>0</td> <td>43</td> <td>112</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACTUAL MEMBERS REG'D</td> <td>24</td> <td>0</td> <td>30</td> <td>54</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MALE</td> <td>11</td> <td></td> <td>16</td> <td>27</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Sep-22 to Nov 22	Dec 22 – Feb 23	Mar - 23	TOTAL	COURSES	7	0	6	13	REGISTRATIONS	69	0	43	112	ACTUAL MEMBERS REG'D	24	0	30	54	MALE	11		16	27	SHCC For the period September 2023-March 2024: <table border="1" data-bbox="1411 997 2049 1396"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Sep-23 to Nov 23</th> <th>Dec 23 – Feb 24</th> <th>Mar - 24</th> <th>TOTAL</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>COURSES</td> <td>9</td> <td>6</td> <td>1</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>REGISTRATIONS</td> <td>174</td> <td>26</td> <td>4</td> <td>204</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACTUAL MEMBERS REG'D</td> <td>45</td> <td>6</td> <td>30</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>MALE</td> <td>18</td> <td>1</td> <td>0</td> <td>19</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Sep-23 to Nov 23	Dec 23 – Feb 24	Mar - 24	TOTAL	COURSES	9	6	1	16	REGISTRATIONS	174	26	4	204	ACTUAL MEMBERS REG'D	45	6	30		MALE	18	1	0	19
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SIX MONTH PROGRESS REPORT AS AT MARCH 2023

FEMALE	58		27	85
PRIVATE	3		4	7
PUBLIC	66		34	100
OTHER/UNEMP			5	5
EXAMS TAKEN	12	5	3	20
MALE	6	2	1	9
FEMALE	6	3	2	11
PRIVATE	5	3	1	9
PUBLIC	7	2	2	11
PASS	10	3	3	16
FAIL	1	1		2
TBM	1	1		2



Out of the 112 Registrations, 52 Registrations were for the free ME Learning Courses for this period and 21 for Quallsafe Awards which is a new venture.

The actual number of individual Registrations (54) included 29 new members.

N.B. You will have noticed that there are no Registrations for the period Dec 22 – Feb 23; this is because of the new

FEMALE	27	5	0	32
PRIVATE	20	1	0	21
PUBLIC	10	4	0	14
OTHER/UNEMP	2	1	0	3
EXAMS TAKEN	6	17	6	29
MALE	3	7	3	13
FEMALE	3	10	3	16
PRIVATE	4	12	4	20
PUBLIC	2	5	2	9
PASS	5	10	3	18
FAIL	1	2	0	3
TBM	NA	5	3	8


SIX MONTH PROGRESS REPORT AS AT MARCH 2023

		transition of data onto the new system (Air table) which were total together in March 2023.	
We will provide youth facilities to include sport, cultural heritage, arts and crafts	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	St Helena Tourism has continued to promote local artists through the Visitor Information Service. New lease with Arts and Crafts association agreed for the canister location.	No further update at present.
We will oversee and support crèche and child care facilities	SOCIAL CARE	Social care continue to oversee and support the crèches and child minders on island in line with legal requirement under the Welfare of Children Ordinance.	No further change.
	 Timeline Delivered within 1 year + ongoing through duration of the plan		
We will consider lowering the voting age	CENTRAL SUPPORT SERVICE	The report is still being prepared by the Working Group and it is still not known whether a recommendation to lower the voting age will be amongst those set out in the report.	In a report provided in October 2023 by Elected Members Working Group which was set up to review the recommendations of the CPA Electoral Commission report of 2021, no recommendation was made by the group to lower the voting age.
	 Timeline Delivered within 1 year + ongoing through duration of the plan		
We will provide further education opportunities	EDUCATION Wendy Benjamin	14 academic 6 th Formers completed Sixth Form by September 2023. Of these, 13 are in employment, 0 are job-seeking and 1 is continuing a study programme in Univeristy. Total number of 6 th Formers as at April to September 2023 = 55	9 Academic 6 th Formers are currently in the Sixth Form program. Total number of 6 th Formers from October 2023 to March 2024 = 49

SIX MONTH PROGRESS REPORT AS AT MARCH 2023


<p>for Young People</p>		<p>April – September 2023</p> <p>Academic Route 14 Blended Route 05 Vocational Route 27 Supported Route 06 Apprenticeship Route 06 Total 58</p> <p>The areas of work placements and study:</p> <p>Academic Route:</p> <p>Biology Chemistry Psychology Nutrition & Health Business & Admin Associate/Professional Literature & Language Publishing or Journalism Environment Conservation Forensic Science/Police Detective CID Graphic Design Health Care Hospitality & Catering ICT/Computer Science Marine Biology/Conservation Marketing Professional Mechanical Engineer Teaching/Law Bio-chemistry Design/Technical Drawing GIS Architecture Work Based</p>	<p>October 23 to March 24</p> <p>Academic Route 9 Blended Route 5 Vocational Route 24 Supported Route 7 Apprenticeship Route 4 Total 49</p> <p>The Current areas of work placements and study:</p> <p>Academic Route:</p> <p>Maths & Further Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Design & Technology, Art, Computer Science, Psychology, Geography, Marine Science (self-study), Accounting (privately purchased), Business Studies, Law, English Literature, English Literature & Language Maths (AQA accredited), Childcare & Education (accredited), Advanced Nutrition & Health, Creative Writing</p> <p>Work Based:</p> <p>Health Care Hospitality & Catering Marine Biology/Conservation Teaching/Law Bio-chemistry Design/Technical Drawing GIS Construction Workers Auto Mechanics Teaching Assistants Nursing</p>
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SIX MONTH PROGRESS REPORT AS AT MARCH 2023


		<p>Construction Workers Auto Mechanics Teaching Assistants Environment Conservation Library Services Nursing Occupational Therapy</p>	<p>Occupational Therapy Travel/Marketing Media Services Printing Safety Security and Home Affairs</p>
<p>We will invest in sports on the Island for all abilities</p>	<p>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</p>	<p>No budget available to invest directly in sports, however we are working closely with NASAS and New Horizons to promote the commonwealth games and other local sporting initiatives, such as the Festival of Running. Status remains as is.</p> <p>£1000 sponsorship given to both the commonwealth games team and cricket association for international games.</p>	<p>No further update at present.</p>
<p> Timeline Delivered within 1 - 3 years + ongoing through duration of the plan</p>			
<p>We aim to meet UK attainment standards by investing in our schools and Community College</p>	<p>EDUCATION Wendy Benjamin</p>	<p>End of School Assessment Results – GCSEs 37 students were in this cohort 5A*-C/4-9 including English and Maths • 32% [12 students – 4 boys & 8 girls] of students achieved 5 A*-C/4-9 including English and Maths compared with 39% last year. There were a further 2 students who could have achieved this goal, but missed a grade C/4 in either their maths or English where they were forecasted to achieve at least a grade C/4. 4/21 boys achieved 5A*-C/4-9 including English and Maths = 19% 8/16 girls achieved 5A*-C/4-9 including English and Maths = 50%</p>	<p>Position has not changed for this outcome as testing is completed on an annual basis. This action will be updated once annual testing is completed at the end of this academic year.</p>

		<p>CAT indicators predicted 28% probability of the cohort achieving 5+ GCSEs grades A*-C/9-5 inc. English and Maths. Despite not meeting the target set for this KPI it should be noted that 59.4% of the cohort either achieved or exceeded their average predicted grade as indicated by CAT.</p> <p><i>Mathematics</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 41% [1 students] achieved 4 – 9 grades. Out of these, 7 boys achieved a grade 4 or higher as did 8 girls. <p><i>English Language</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 49% (18 students) gained A*-C grades. Out of these 17, 6 boys achieved a grade C or higher, and 12 girls. <p>KEYSTAGE 1 AND 2</p> <p>58.9% of males at or above ARE in English 53/90 80.8% of females at or above ARE in English 84/104 66.7% of males at or above ARE in Maths 62/93 72.1% of females at or above ARE in Maths 75/104 51.1% of males at or above ARE in both English and Maths 46/90 (NB 3 males sat Maths only) 66.3% of females at ARE in both English and Maths 69/104</p> <p>KEYSTAGE 3</p> <p>58.7% of males at or above ARE in English 37/63 69.8% of females at or above ARE in English 37/53 67.2% of males at or above ARE in Maths 43/64 77.4% of females at or above ARE in Maths 41/53 67.2% of males at or above ARE in both English and Maths 43/64 77.4% of females at or above ARE in both English and Maths 41/53</p> <p>KEYSTAGE 1 AND 2 RESULTS (TOTALS INCLUSIVE OF EXEMPTED STUDENTS)</p> <p>66.2% of students at or above ARE in English 137/207</p>	
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SIX MONTH PROGRESS REPORT AS AT MARCH 2023

		<p>66.2% of students at or above ARE in Maths 137/207 55.6% of students at or above ARE in English and Maths 115/207</p> <p>KEYSTAGE 3 RESULTS (TOTALS INCLUSIVE OF EXEMPTED STUDENTS)</p> <p>61.7% of students at or above ARE in English 74/120 70.0 % of students at or above ARE in Maths 84/120 55.8% of students at or above ARE in English and Maths 67/120</p>	
We will invest in improved safe spaces and recreation equipment for Children and Young People	EDUCATION	<p>To date no further work has been completed in relation to safe spaces and recreation equipment. We have submitted bids via EDIP and CSSF to gain funding for further improvements. We await feedback on this.</p> <p>No further update. Position remains as at March 2022.</p>	The Portfolio has not been successful in gaining funding to progress this action. Schools will continue to try to make small improvements by allocating some funding from the limited annual recurrent budget allocated to them.
	<p> Timeline Delivered within 3 years of the plan</p>		
We will introduce paid maternity, paternity and adoption leave on the Island	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	<p>Maternity, Paternity and Adoption Leave has now been included within the Employment Rights Ordinance. An allowance of 14 weeks maternity leave has become statutory, of which at least 4 weeks is paid as full pay. An allowance of 2 weeks paid paternity and adoption leave has become statutory.</p> <p>This currently stands as is at 31 March 2022.</p>	No further change.



Altogether Wealthier			
ACTION	Responsible Officer	Previous POSITION as at 30th September 2023	CURRENT POSITION as at 31st March 2024
	 Timeline Ongoing through duration of the plan		
We will reduce inequality and poverty	CENTRAL SUPPORT SERVICE	<p>An increase in the rates of Income Related Benefits (IRB) and Basic Island Pension (BIP) became effective 1 September 2022. Increase in base rate of BIP from £75.50 to £77.50 and IRB from £73.00 to £75.00 per week respectively.</p> <p>No further increase at present. An increase is due to take effect from 1 October 2023.</p>	<p>From 1st October 2023:</p> <p>IRB is £78 per week BIP is £80.50 per week</p>
We will continually review customs duties to support the Island's development	TREASURY	<p>The T&RWG is considering options for tax policy changes to support the Island's development as part of the MTEF process for the 2024/25 – 2026/27 period. These options will be presented to Ministers to consider in Q4 2023/24.</p>	<p>Ministers as part of the 2024-25 financial year have agreed to maintain the zero-rated tariff for all essential goods that was introduced as part of the Cost of Living Policy in 2022. This zero-rated tariff will be in place until the end of the 2024-25 financial year.</p>





SIX MONTH PROGRESS REPORT AS AT MARCH 2023

			See objectives of the SEDS (Sustainable Economic Development Strategy). Recently import duty on buses and heavy equipment reduced.
We will encourage eco-tourism	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	£500k tourism development fund successfully bid for and approved by the FCDO. Tourism Development Programme underway.	Ongoing delivery of the TDP(Tourism Development Programme)
We will continue to invest in the agriculture and fisheries sectors	ENRP	Day old chick imports were facilitated.	See above for agricultural EDIP Project.
We will invest in training for Saint Helenians to take over roles currently undertaken by internationally recruited staff	CENTRAL SUPPORT SERVICE (Human Resources)	28 middle managers attended the programme from June to August 2023, bringing the total number of attendees to 123, which includes senior and middle managers. Locally recruited trainers within and outside of the public Service have been 'trained to train' and continue delivering this programme. It will recommence in early 2024 to pick up middle and senior managers who could not attend over these past two years and the Directors. The Public Service currently (2023) hosts 10 apprentice placemats under the Sixth Form Scheme and 6 under health/police apprenticeships. With a view to having a more structured	

SIX MONTH PROGRESS REPORT AS AT MARCH 2023

		coordinated approach towards a Public Service Apprenticeship Placement Programme, this has commenced within the 24/25 MTEF Planning Process, where Portfolios have been asked to identify potential placement opportunities.	
We will actively encourage Saint Helenians to return to the Island to take up jobs for the benefit the economy	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Immigration Policy options drafted.	Immigration Policy approved.
We will review the current currency situation on a regular basis and make decisions in the best interest of the Island	TREASURY	The BoSH and SHG are taking forward initiatives to improve banking facilities on the Island.	No further update.
We will make it easier and more affordable for Crown Land to be purchased, rented and developed for local first time buyers	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (Property)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draft Property Purchase and Disposal Policy to proceed to ExCo for approval. 2. Work has started on Property Disposal Plan with around 50 properties identified for disposal so far. 3. Amendments to the Stamp Duty Ordinance to provide exemptions for first time buyers to proceed to ExCo. 	<p>1. Following legal review of the Draft Property Disposal and Purchase Policy in January 2024, a redraft was considered necessary to address the identified risks.</p> <p>A new policy is being drafted to limit the risks of judicial review and to improve transparency and the style of the document so that it is accessible to all users.</p> <p>The draft policy broadens the scope of first time buyers and provides for 30% discount in property value for applicants meeting the criteria, which is no longer linked to income.</p>

SIX MONTH PROGRESS REPORT AS AT MARCH 2023

			2. Amendments to the Stamp Duty Ordinance providing exemptions from Stamp duty to first time buyers looking to make St Helena their principal home to proceed to ExCo once amendments to the draft order is complete.
	 Timeline Delivered within 1 year + ongoing through duration of the plan		
We will ensure that the tax and benefit system protect the most vulnerable	TREASURY	The T&RWG is considering options for tax policy changes to support the Island's development as part of the MTEF process for the 2024/25 – 2026/27 period. These options will be presented to Ministers to consider in Q4 2023/24.	No update at present.
	 Timeline Delivered within 1 - 3 – 5 years of the plan		
We will develop amenities and recreation facilities which are affordable for all	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Successful completion of the Post Box walks improvement work under EDIP micro-projects funding.	A new Post Box walk created at Gill Point.
	 Timeline Delivered within 3 years + ongoing through duration of the plan		
We will raise the minimum wage and have a living wage for the Island	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Minimum wage increase recently announced.	No further update at present.
	 Timeline Delivered within 1 - 3 – 5 years of the plan		

SIX MONTH PROGRESS REPORT AS AT MARCH 2023

<p>We will improve connectivity on the Island and provide faster and cheaper internet</p>	<p>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</p>	<p>Temporary licence with SURE means that new internet packages with significantly improved speeds and 44% reduction in costs.</p>	<p>New SURE packages introduced for faster and more affordable internet.</p>
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10 YEAR PLAN

Photography

Paul Tyson

St Helena Government

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Social Media Links