



ST HELENA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

ORDER PAPER

**First Sitting
of the
Third Meeting
of Legislative Council**

**Friday 24 October 2025 at 10am
in the Council Chamber**

- 1. Formal Entry of the Speaker**
- 2. Prayers**
- 3. Address by the Speaker**
- 4. Papers**

- SP 51/2025 *(Hon Chief Minister)*
St Helena Government – Equality & Human Rights Commission Annual Report 2024/25
- SP 52/2025 *(Hon Chief Minister)*
St Helena Government – Statement of Expenditure in Excess – Financial Year 2024/25
- SP 53/2025 *(Hon Chief Minister)*
St Helena Government – Proceedings of Legislative Council – Thursday, 26 June 2025 – First Sitting of the Twenty Third Meeting
- SP 54/2025 *(Hon Chief Minister)*
St Helena Government – Proceedings of Legislative Council – Wednesday, 10 September – Inaugural Meeting

SP 55/2025 (*Hon Chief Minister*)

St Helena Government – Proceedings of Legislative Council –
Thursday, 11 September, 2025 – Second Sitting of Inaugural Meeting

SP 56/2025 (*Hon Chief Minister*)

St Helena Government – Proceedings of Minister's Question Time –
Tuesday, 24 June 2025 – Twenty First Sitting

SP 57/2025 (*Hon Chief Minister*)

St Helena Government – Withdrawal Warrant 2, 2024/25

5. Questions

1. The Hon Derek Thomas to ask the Hon Chief Minister:

Will the Honourable Chief Minister provide an update regarding consideration of free bus passes being provided to those persons over seventy years of age?

2. The Hon Robert Midwinter to ask the Hon Minister for Safety, Security and Home Affairs:

Will the Honourable Minister for Safety, Security and Home Affairs tell this House if, in order to address public concerns, she will give consideration to installing road traffic calming measures in the vicinity of the island's various care facilities?

3. The Hon Julie Thomas to ask the Hon Chief Minister:

In view of St Helena's continued financial dependence on UK aid, will the Honourable Chief Minister confirm whether her Government will be submitting an alternative budget proposal to the UK Government, as the previous administration did when it requested an additional £16.3 million to meet the island's reasonable needs, given that to date the scenarios requested by the UK Government do not?

4. The Hon Ronald Coleman to ask the Hon Chief Minister:

Can the Honourable Chief Minister advise this Council and the people of this island if this Government is giving consideration to raise the Income Tax threshold within the next financial year?

5. The Hon Denis Leo to ask the Hon Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources and Planning:

Will the Honourable Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources and Planning tell this House why the long-promised Business Plan for PQ Trading and Saints Tuna Corporation – committed to be delivered by 30 June 2025

– has still not materialised and when will this critical plan finally be made available to the House?

6. The Hon Dr Corinda Essex to ask the Hon Minister for Education, Skills and Employment:

Will the Honourable Minister for Education, Skills and Employment tell this House what remains to be done in order to get a Student Scholarship Trust established and operational?

7. The Hon Clint Beard to ask the Hon Chief Minister:

Can the Honourable Chief Minister please provide a detailed breakdown of the £13.5 million capital spend that has been allocated for Financial Year 2025/26 including the specific projects and their cost, and what happens to the funds if not spent by 30 March 2026?

8. The Hon Derek Thomas to ask the Hon Minister for Health and Social Care:

Will the Honourable Minister for Health and Social Care state whether consideration can be given to reducing the cost of X-Ray's and blood tests to those persons over the age of sixty five years?

9. The Hon Robert Midwinter to ask the Hon Minister for Education, Skills and Employment:

Will the Honourable Minister for Education, Skills and Employment tell this House if he will give recognition within the 6th Form Policy to the fact that Vocational Students are required to undertake a minimum of 35 hours per week work placement, which means that the £250/m allowance is essentially below minimum wage?

10. The Hon Julie Thomas to ask the Hon Chief Minister:

Given that the Bunkers Hill Development Project is long overdue and that legal advice has already been provided on the path forward, will the Honourable Chief Minister account to this House for the continued lack of progress and advise what specific commitments, if any, the Government will make to remedy the worsening road conditions being endured by affected residents?

11. The Hon Ronald Coleman to ask the Hon Minister for Safety Security and Home Affairs:

As the Minister responsible for infrastructure, will the Honourable Minister for Safety Security and Home Affairs consider a fresh look at the roads policy to see if this Government will be able to assist other roads outside of the policy, especially those that travel over Crown Land and access for elderly persons?

12. The Hon Denis Leo to ask the Hon Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources and Planning:

Will the Honourable Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources and Planning tell this Council, what strategies or initiatives are being implemented to stimulate GDP growth in the agriculture, forestry, and fishing sector?

13. The Hon Dr Corinda Essex to ask the Hon Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources and Planning:

Will the Honourable Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources and Planning tell this House the reasons why construction of new Government social housing units has still not commenced at Bottom Woods, and what is being done to expedite this work?

14. The Hon Clint Beard to ask the Hon Minister for Safety, Security and Home Affairs:

Will the Honourable Minister for Safety, Security and Home Affairs please provide this House with a detailed breakdown of projected forecasted operational cost of Rupert's Port Facility in its entirety and how this will be managed and funded once the facility becomes fully operational?

15. The Hon Derek Thomas to ask the Hon Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources and Planning:

Will the Honourable Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources and Planning inform this House what action is being taken to ensure that unproductive Agricultural and Forestry lands can be made available for other purposes such as house building?

16. The Hon Robert Midwinter to ask the Hon Chief Minister:

Will the Honourable Chief Minister tell this Council when she expects to be in a position to share her Government's Vision and Strategy with the community of St Helena?

17. The Hon Julie Thomas to ask the Hon Minister for Education, Skills and Employment:

Further to the Press Release of 4 September 2025 regarding the phased Primary School Reorganisation, will the Honourable Minister for Education, Skills & Employment update the House on the progress of preparatory work for Phase 1, set to begin in January 2026, particularly in relation to the building works begin at the

KS1 site (Harford Primary School) and the relocation of KS1 students from the three existing primary schools relocating to St Pauls Primary School site?

18. The Hon Dr Corinda Essex to ask the Hon Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources and Planning:

Will the Honourable Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources and Planning tell this House what is the current situation regarding development of the new agriculture strategy, and whether there will be further stakeholder engagement prior to its final approval?

19. The Hon Clint Beard to ask the Hon Chief Minister:

Can the Honourable Chief Minister update this House on the current employee numbers within SHG, to include permanent, temporary, contract staff be it on island or remote working and what vacancies or employment initiatives/drives if any, are in progress?

6. Motions

1. The Hon Dr Corinda Essex

That this House resolves that urgent consideration should be given to undertaking a comprehensive review of Customs tariffs to ensure that these are aligned with the needs of the public through a focus on making essential and key items more affordable.

2. The Hon Derek Thomas

That this House resolves that urgent consideration should be given that an independent enquiry be carried out to determine to what extent Connect Saint Helena is providing value for money.

7. Adjournment Debate

Written Question:

The Hon Dr Corinda Essex to ask the Hon Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources and Planning:

Will the Honourable Minister for Economic Development and Environment, Natural Resources and Planning provide a breakdown of actual expenditure to date for each component of the Rupert's Cargo Handling Facility Project?

Response:

The Ruperts Cargo Handling Facility business case was approved in 2020 with an indicative project budget of £4.794m.

Additional funding was required and the first request was made to Executive Council in June 2024 for £1.293m however only £941,750 was approved. Two further requests were made to the Steering Committee in October 2024 and December 2024 and both requests of £452k and £275k were subsequently approved. The final approved project budget is therefore £6.464m; an overall increase of £1.670m.

Expenditure to 20 October 2025 is currently £5,709,323.04 and the table below provides a breakdown of actual expenditure by component on the project.

It should be noted that a final account will be prepared on completion of the project. The expenditure disclosed below is therefore expected to change.

	Expenditure to date
Supply of steel frame buildings (CFS and PCB)	732,775
Site ancillary works	93,032
Sewerage Treatment Plant	385,704
Procurement of Lighting	61,932
Procurement of Weighpads	9,969
Construction of Main Container Yard (PCB)	1,471,680
Landscaping works	2,050
Break Bulk Yard and CFS Access Improvements	581,996
Construction of container Freight Station yard	347,652
Erection of Steel Frame Buildings	425,226
Construction of Public car park	31,039
Procurement of Fencing and Gates	174,595
Procurement and Installation of CCTV	126,472
Small buildings Package (Public Toilets and Stevedore)	98,868
Pedestrian and Wheelchair access	76,850
Internal fit out	705,320
Connection of utility services	86,624
Procurement of lifts	53,333
Procurement of cages, lockers, traffic barriers, forklifts etc	62,048
Connection of Telecommunication services	20,237
Construction of staff car park	19,226
Procurement and installation of electrical cabling/services	122,982
Covered Area: Break Bulk Yard	4,967
Other non specific project costs i.e. container purchases, tree felling, contribution to the upper ruperts road work	14,747
	5,709,323