

Many Questions to be Answered About Gibraltar International Bank

Deal With Gibraltar International Bank Raises Many Questions

On Monday, SHG released a press release saying: "GIBRAL-TAR INTERNATIONAL BANK SUPPORTS ST HELENA Gibraltar International Bank (GIB) has agreed to formally support St Helena Government's (SHG) and Bank of St Helena's (BOSH) initiative to provide easier access to international banking services for St Helena residents and businesses. This means that St Helena residents and businesses can now apply to open an account directly with GIB where they will be able to access online banking services and a debit card that can be used for online purchases/payments and used abroad. The GIB bank account would be similar to having a UK bank account and can be used for payment transfers (in/out) and opened in various currencies to facilitate foreign transactions. The GIB bank account would be 'located' in Gibraltar, and there would be no legal relationship between the bank account holder and SHG or between SHG and GIB. SHG is not promoting GIB and does not warrant in any way the services offered by GIB.

Financial Secretary Dax Richards said: "This piece of work has been ongoing for a while and the outcome is a real positive for St Helena. With the rise in the requirements for payments by debit/credit cards most people and businesses on St Helena would have found it difficult to buy items or pay for services online. Having the option of opening a bank account with the Gibraltar International Bank will enable people to obtain a card which will make these transactions easier.

"When travelling overseas, residents without an overseas bank account or debit card would have had to transfer money to a family member's bank account or carried large amounts of cash which as we know is not safe and advised against. The option of opening a bank account with Gibraltar will complement the work being progressed by the Bank of St Helena to address the banking needs of the people of St Helena.

"Furthermore it is hoped that businesses will soon have the option of acquiring a point of sale platform capable of accepting payments by debit and credit cards. This will go some way in supporting the local private sector to maximise revenues from visitors to the Island and ensure businesses are able to take advantage of future e-commerce opportunities."

To express an interest in opening an account with the GIB, persons and businesses should contact GIB directly, the account opening process will be subject to the usual know your customer checks. A trial has been undertaken and from submitting an application through to opening the account and receiving a debit card through the post took around 6-8 weeks. Further information on the type of accounts and associated support can be obtained from the GIB

Website: https://www.gibintbank.gi/.

Those interested in opening an account can contact the following members of staff by email:

Kevin Gonzalez – Relationship Manager

kevin.gonzalez@gibintbank.gi

Gerald Danino – Head of Client Relations

gerald.danino@gibintbank.gi

Gibraltar International Bank Limited is authorised and regulated by the Gibraltar Financial Services Commission."

It cannot be in question that St Helena needs access to international debit card arrangements but before SHG solicits such services with a relatively unknown bank some checks and investigations need to be undertaken. We also need to as-



From Mike's Diary

sess the consequences for our own Bank of St Helena. There are a big risk that we are shooting ourselves in the foot if we do not do this properly.

The St Helena Independent has undertaken its own investigations with help from some friends with experience from banking and the legalities involved.

The Gibraltar International Bank Ltd- according to the internet it is 100% owned by the Government of Gibraltar although we can find no details of its accounts, capital, profitability etc. It is relatively new and we wonder how successful it is. The senior people behind the bank Lawrence Podesta, the CEO, and Derek Sene, who seem to be the senior managers, were full career employees of Barclays Bank, Gibraltar. Both were relatively junior employees.

Our guess is that Lawrence Podesta and Derek Sene have set up GIB Ltd after retirement from Barclays after some interesting discussions with the Government of Gibraltar and behind closed doors! They have certainly not put any of their own money into the Bank. It might be interesting to find out just how BOSH has become involved with this new outfit in Gibraltar. We do not doubt that that Podesta and Sene are honest people and they will do their best to look after Saints money but some questions need to be asked.

1. SHG will destroy the bank of St Helena by doing this. There will be significant capital flows away from the island.

2. Access to visa debit and credit facilities will inevitably mean that more people buy goods off island. There will be a significant detrimental impact on local retailers. points 1 and 2 mean significant problems for St Helena's economy.

3. The due diligence on GIB appears not to have been done properly.

4. There has been no thought to anti money laundering issues and compliance processes.

5. The press release is essentially a solicitation for deposit taking which is in breach of the financial services ordinance 6. We know that GIb is regulated by the Gibraltar financial services commission but the public has not been told whether there is any consumer deposit protection scheme or an ombudsman etc?

7. How exactly will this work in St Helena without a physical presence and no local regulator?

In an interview on Saint FM yesterday the Financial Secretary, Dax Richards said that the Attorney General, Allen Cansick, was in agreement with the scheme and no approval from the St Financial Services Regulator was needed. I have my doubts.



The Sarkin Report on ways to improve the way we are governed features heavily in today's edition of the *Independent*. We provide you some of the main points Sarkin makes in his report but if you want to read the full report (it's not very long) it can be downloaded from the Saint FM website.

One of the many aspects of good governance is good communication and all that goes with it. Timely and genuine consultation, trust and truth are all part of it. Abraham Lincoln got it right with something he once said and because he did, what he said is still quoted today. He said, "I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis. The great point is to bring them the real facts, and beer." What an astute, insightful person that man must have been. They don't propagate US presidents like that anymore.

Martin Luther as well as being very influential at the time of the Protestant Reformation, was a professor; just like Julian Sarkin. Luther certainly had that particular type of clear-cut logic you expect from a professor. One of the more famous quotes attributed to Martin Luther is, "Whoever drinks beer, he is quick to sleep; whoever sleeps long, does not sin; whoever does not sin, enters Heaven! Thus, let us drink beer!" That is really ground-breaking stuff for a professor of theology.

Frank Zappa also has definite views on the value of beer. Our own government should heed Zappa's words as we pick our way through the tunji of life in the quest for a vibrant, thriving, St Helena. Mr Zappa tells us, "You can't be a real country unless you have a beer and an airline - it helps if you have some kind of football team, or some nuclear weapons, but in the very least you need a beer." We do have a distillery here; surely that counts and qualifies St Helena for fully fledged nationhood.

About halfway between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, in a place called Nes Ziona, there is a small but smart start-up just coming through the final phases of developing a paint which uses radiation from the burning hot Sun to cool buildings, ships, satellites, planes, military vehicles and much more. One of the biggest selling points is that when used on buildings it cuts down the amount of electricity used to keep the air conditioners going. In St Helena it could mean a coat of paint on the roof, which is claimed to last at least 10 years, would cool the rooms inside houses without the need of expensive insulation material. Imagine getting into your car after its been parked in the Sun for a few hours and instead of a blast of hot air hitting you in the face as you open the door, it's comfortably cool inside. I cannot find any mention of the price of a 5 litre can but maybe it's too early to be precise about pricing. As things stand the development schedule is bang on target to start field tests next month. The brand



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name has been sorted, it's SolCold. The company has already received hundreds of enquiries from paint suppliers in Africa, Australia, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, China, France, India, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Mexico, Philippines, Turkey and the United States.

Corona – with that Extra something



A brand name that needs a re-think

Have a good weekend; let's hope there is a good downpour sometime during the night-time. *Vince*

SEA CONDITIONS

The Emergency Planning Department would like to inform the public that a north westerly swell is forecast for St Helena from Saturday, 14, to Wednesday, 18 March 2020. This **may** result in unsettled sea conditions in James Bay and Rupert's Bay.

Due care and attention should be taken when swimming in James Bay and Rupert's Bay during this time.

To avoid damage to vehicles, drivers are asked to take care when parking near the safety rails.

Boat owners should ensure their vessels are securely fixed to their moorings.

Port Control will be monitoring sea conditions and may restrict access to the Seafront and Wharf areas if necessary. **SHG**

12 March 2020

St Helena Political Governance Review (Report Two)

Many of the main points in the 2nd Sarkin Report are reproduced below. The *Independent's* own comment on the report will appear separately over the coming weeks. Here, it is only what the report suggests or recommends that is published. There will be more from the 2nd Sarkin Report next week

General Issues Introduction

In this report recommendations are made and a road map suggested for the way forward over the next eighteen months, so that a new system can be in place by the middle of 2021, when the next elections are to be held.

St Helena is facing a number of challenges. These affect a range of particular matters that are central to the Island's future. It is particularly the aging population, insufficient economic growth, in sufficient tourist numbers, lack of investment, small tax base, lack of economic opportunity, and low wages among others, that are some of the problems that exist.

If a new system were adopted there is going to be a need for an adjustment period. More people with vision and leadership will need to participate in the system. More people would be needed with more qualifications and additional skills to stand for public office. People will need to be encouraged to participate in any new system.

Observations

The report finds there is clear support for change across the Island, but concern about what it should be and whether that change is workable. There is a clear choice facing St Helena between retaining the present arrangements, perhaps trying to make them work better than they do at present or moving to a ministerial system either directly or by using a hybrid system that combines the present committee system with a ministerial arrangement.

The report notes that popular will or general acceptance will need to be shown for the changes to be accepted in the UK. [This refers to the changes proposed on the UK Government side in their dealings with SHG being accepted by the people of St Helena together with the changes in St Helena governance]

The success of a changed governance system will be determined by who gets involved and how well a clearer system of accountability and responsibility works.

Training and ongoing education will be vital. The provision of legal and technical skills is essential, as are incentives to bring more people into the system.

The Chief Secretary said, "a public sector reform and modernisation programme which will focus on the improvement in the delivery of public services so the public sector functions in accordance with good government principles will be implemented from April 2020 and will start with a rigorous analysis of all SHG functions both core and non-core"

Recommendations

This report suggests that the next way forward would be for the implementation of a full ministerial system. The report recommends that there be 11 elected representatives who are elected in the one constituency that presently exists on St Helena, but that each councillor be allocated a specific district to represent.

The report recommends on a Roadmap to adopt the changes by St Helena's next election in June 2021. It finds that there needs to be two parts to the Roadmap that 1] on Island, 2] in the UK.

It is recommended that the best and least divisive way forward for St Helena would be for an educational and consultation process to be embarked on followed by a resolution in the Legco.

However, FCO and DFID should be engaged and announce their commitment to support a new system in all ways possible.

Conclusions

There is a clear choice facing St Helena. That is, retaining the present arrangements, perhaps trying to make them work better than they do at present, or moving to a ministerial system.

Retaining the present system and creating a hybrid model by adding ministerial or individual responsibility is a possibility but not the ideal choice. It will retain many of the present problems, although it might engender more individual responsibility.

My clear recommendation however would be for the ministerial system to be introduced as soon as possible to allow St Helena to face its challenges, in far more decisive ways, in the short to medium term.

However, an alternative system could be a hybrid system which keeps the committee system but which adds on 5 ministers with individual responsibility, including most importantly, a Chief Minister. The committees could then play an advisory role to each of the ministers.

Specific Issues

A Ministerial System or the Present Committee System with Add-ons

The benefits of a ministerial system are ... individual responsibility for decisions and results ... Individual ministers with the support of the heads of directorates and the work of administrators in those departments become responsible for policy and implementation. They can plan a clearer programme of action, in advance, that they can communicate to the public. Each ministry, with the direction of the Chief Minister, can prioritise more decisively ... Government business in the legislature can be planned in advance.

The minister also has responsibility for designing and implementing policy. Legislation that legalises policy should under this system usually emanate from a ministry. The Minister should approve it before sending it the Exco (similar to a cabinet) and Legco (the legislature or parliament) to be debates, voted on and finalised.

After approval of the policy the minister is responsible for the implementation of the policy with the support of the ministry concerned. The minister also has to make the political decision on priorities if there are not enough resources to implement all of the policies . . . The director of the ministry or directorate must implement a policy and be accountable if it is not done or not done well. The minister must hold the director accountable for that. The Chief Minister and the Min-

St Helena Political Governance Review (Report Two)

ister will be held accountable by Legco, and all of them by the electorate.

The Chief Secretary ought to become the Chief Director over the Directors of Ministries with an overall civil service coherence role. The Chief Director would report to the Chief Minister on public service performance. The Financial Secretary ought to become the financial advisor (or Director/Permanent Secretary of an Economics and Finance Ministry) presided over by the Chief Minister.

A Functional Ministerial System for St Helena

For either type of system – the full ministerial system of the hybrid system made of the continuation of the committee system but now with ministers – there ought to be a Chief Minister and four other Ministers on St Helena. They each ought to have specific defined port folios. Each Minister needs to have one directorate or ministry in their port folio. This would mean rationalising down to five the present structure of directorates in SHG. The Chief Minister, in addition to having overall responsibility and leading on political vision ought to have the financial port folio. This is one of the key issues that is necessary to allow the Island to function better.

The budgetary system ought to be that Ministers create a draft budget for their Ministry. The Chief Minister must then review all those budgets. The Chief Minister must then devise an overall draft budget, including suggested allocations to each ministry. After approval each Minister becomes responsible for the budget lines of the amounts allocated to their ministry.

A Model of What the 5 Ministerial Portfolios could be composed of

These are a suggested way forward . . . in integrating the present eight directorates into a model for the future. In any case there needs to be 5 ministries headed by the Chief Minister as well as 4 other Ministers. These could be;

Chief Minister's Office – Economic Development and Finance Budget, economic development, strategy and planning Health and Social Development

Education, social care, health, probationary services and sport Home Affairs and Public Safety

Immigration, labour, social security, social housing, human rights, constitutional affairs, cultural affairs, media and broadcasting, police, prison, border security, emergency services and disaster management.

Access and Transport

Civil aviation, ports, transport, postal services, telecommunications, maritime affairs and registry service

Natural Resources and Infrastructure

Fisheries, agriculture, forestry, land and buildings, works, infrastructure development, environment and protected areas

Openness and Transparency

Much disaffection on the Island exists because people are not aware, or insufficiently informed, about the process and the outcomes of specific matters. Constituents want better engagement and want the process that will bring about change speeded up. They also want to understand how decisions are taken, who took them and why they were taken. There is much criticism about these issues at present.

While a Consultation Policy for St Helena was adopted and seemingly published in 2017 very few people seem to know

about it. Even those who are generally well informed do not know about it and even less people are knowledgeable about its contents. The Policy itself is useful and if regularly implemented would be a major step forward. However the policy itself needs the subject of consultation. It should then become legislation. This is essential, so that any process that does not follow the rubric is not valid. This is essential, as where sufficient consultation occurs the greater the likelihood that the outcome will be accepted and the greater degree to which service delivery will result. This does not have to be done before the constitutional process is concluded in 2021 but the process should begin.

Efficient and acceptable decision making is underpinned by community participation that results from transparent and open processes. In this regard the confidentiality oath by councillors ought to be reviewed to allow them to be more open at times. Councillors often blame the oath for their inability to be open about what they are working on. This is not to infer that everything ought to be able to be revealed. There will be issues that have a commercial, privacy, dignity or other important reasons why the information must remain confidential. However, confidentiality ought to be exception rather than the rule. An Access to Information Act should also be adopted.

Accountability

The key to a reformed system is one that accepts that with greater responsibility for Ministers is that such a system needs strong checks and balances of that power. Internally the individuals and processes need to be accountable by having question time for the Chief Minister, the Ministers and the directors of Directorates or Ministries. There needs to be openness as far as how and why decisions are made. Conflict of interest rules need to be robust and enforced. A members Interest Register is needed.

There ought to be strong institutional accountability processes so that the Assembly or Parliament at appropriate times holds ministers and ministries to account. Motions of no confidence ought to be permitted. The Equality and Human Right Commission needs to be made Paris Principles compliant. The members ought to be appointed, as with other institutions, by independent processes such as the Judicial Services Commission.

The Complaints Commission, which can be appointed in terms of the present constitution by the governor, ought to become a standing mechanism, possibly as an Ombudsman. For many appointments at present there is a great deal of discretion about the way the process occurs. Greater independence in appointment and functioning ought to occur.

Greater say by islanders in their Governance

It should be determined which powers ought to be devolved and which powers of the Governor are retained. Rather than allow each Governor to decide which powers to devolve and when to devolve them, it should be that more of them are directly devolved with the ability to take back those powers when there is a need to do so for specific problematic circumstances. There have been shifts in giving greater say to communities over such matters on various OTs over the years ... there ought to be a shift to ensure that these powers are given to those on St Helena.

More on Coronavirus

The World Health Organisation has officially classified the spread of the Covid19 coronavirus a pandemic. While the number of infections and deaths reported due to Covid19 continue to climb, in some cases, at an accelerating rate it is worth considering one or two facts. The latest number of confirmed Covid19 cases worldwide at the time of writing is 124,749 and the number of deaths from the disease is 4,604. Of course the reported cases can be just the tip of the iceberg with many infections going unreported and even some deaths. However, from the figures available the number of deaths represents between 3% and 4% of the total number of reported Covid19 cases. The mortality rate in China is within the global 3 and 4 % range but in South Korea, also badly affected by Covid19 the mortality rate is less than 1%. Iran is also within the 3 and 4% range for number of deaths against confirmed cases but Italy has a mortality rate of nearly 7% with 827 deaths and 12, 462 cases. Meanwhile back in the Mother Country there have been 8 deaths at the time of writing and 460 confirmed cases; which gives a mortality rate of less than 2%.

Two other coronaviruses have shown themselves to be less contagious but more lethal. Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) claimed 813 lives from 8,473 cases reported across 30 countries in 2002-03. That's a much higher mor-

What should I do to prevent catching and spreading the virus?

tality rate; at 9.5% compared to what even the most badly affected countries have experienced so far from Covid19.

The other coronavirus is Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) which is reported to originate from bats, as does SARS, but most human infection has been through close contact with camels. MERS is the most lethal coronavirus that has jumped from animals to humans but contagion has been very localised so far. MERS was identified in Saudi Arabia in 2012 and spread to 27 countries claiming 868 lives from 2,494 confirmed cases; a fatality rate of 34%.

The usual and more common types of flu can claim many lives. As the new millennium dawned the UK was in the grip of a very bad flu outbreak that claimed 22,000 lives. In an average year at least 2,000 people die from the effects of flu. Bird flu and Swine flu have also caused anxiety for shivering Brits as the northern winter sets in.

Of course any confirmed case of coronavirus will be a cause of anxiety, especially here in St Helena where half the population can be affected by a flu outbreak in double-quick time. Here is some advice on how to protect yourself from infection from Covid19.





CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

ST HELENA PREPAREDNESS – UPDATE

The COVID-19 virus outbreak is evolving quickly – the virus epidemic now having spread to a number of new countries over the last week with South Africa confirming its first positive case of COVID-19 on 5 March 2020.

Keeping St Helena safe is our priority and we would like to reassure you that we have deployed all resources into preparing and responding to any threat to the Island from COVID-19. The situation is constantly being monitored to ensure that the preventive measures in place are working, and processes are regularly updated to reflect changing circumstances. The Health Directorate continues to work closely with Public Health England and the World Health Organization on the spread of COVID-19 and we are doing all we can to prevent the virus from reaching the Island.

Yesterday, Councillors agreed the following additional measures with immediate effect:

- We will restrict access to the Island from all visitors who have travelled in the last 14 days, to or within any Country which has been designated as Category 1. These countries are currently Wuhan City and Hubei Province (China), Iran, Daegu or Cheongdo (Republic of Korea) and Italy. This list will be kept under review and updated as circumstances change. The decision will be reviewed after three months. Strict screening measures remain in place for all other visitors to the Island.
- We will restrict all cruise ship visits to the Island. This decision will also be reviewed after three months.

The Health Directorate continues to strongly advise anyone intending to travel to a country or an area of a country where Covid-19 has been identified, to take precautions and to be aware that when returning to St Helena they will be screened accordingly.

If you have recently arrived or returned to St Helena and you have developed symptoms of cough or fever or shortness of breath, you should immediately:

- Stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with the flu
- Call the Health Directorate to inform them of your recent travel and to what country

SHG has restricted official travel for all officers, additionally Councillors have made the decision to cancel their attendance at the Joint Ministerial Council meeting to be held in London later this month.

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We are working to source critical equipment and supplies to support the anticipated additional demands on the Health Service. We have reprioritised our Technical Cooperation budget to procure additional medical staff and this week you will see an advert asking people with Health experience, to register their names with our HR Directorate.

We are developing plans to support people who are requested to self-isolate where necessary, this includes making sure they have access to food and essential supplies.

We wish to reassure you that at this time there are no suspected cases of COVID-19 on the Island.

Prevention

While strong practical measures are being taken to prevent the virus getting here, we must be realistic that no system is infallible. A key challenge for us is that we cannot yet conduct conclusive testing for COVID-19 on the Island. A COVID-19 finger prick test will arrive in the next two weeks, and a more advanced test kit is expected on-Island in the next two months.

If the virus is detected on the Island, we can expect the likely impacts of infection:

- For the majority of those infected this will be a mild illness with symptoms such as a cough, fever, and little else
- For a small number, potentially between 5-10% of those infected, illness may be felt more seriously, leading to more severe ill effects
- For an even smaller number, likely to be between 1-3% of who become infected, the impact could be extremely serious.

Those over 65 years of age, and those with chronic heart or chest disease (including asthma needing regular treatment), diabetes, cancer and other immune related disorders are the individuals most at risk of developing serious complications as a result of contracting COVID-19. The Children & Adults Social Care Directorate are developing and implementing additional measures to protect our elderly and vulnerable people.

It is possible that we will need to consider 'social distancing' policies including discouraging large gatherings. This coupled with good hand/cough hygiene will help to protect the Island for some time.

Information about COVID-19

COVID-19 is a respiratory virus which spreads primarily through contact with an infected person, normally generated through coughs or sneezes or through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose. Infection with COVID-19 can cause mild symptoms similar to other flu-like viruses, for example a runny nose, sore throat, cough and fever.

If you become ill with any of these symptoms do not go to the Hospital. Instead call the hospital for advice on these dedicated phone numbers: <u>25707</u> Self-isolate at home and await advice from Hospital staff.

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand rub if your hands are not visibly dirty
- **CATCH IT, KILL IT, BIN IT** When coughing and sneezing, cover mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue to prevent the spread of germs and viruses. Discard tissue immediately into a closed bin and clean your hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water
- Hands touch many surfaces which can be contaminated with a virus. If you touch your eyes, nose or mouth with your contaminated hands, you can transfer a virus from the surface to yourself
- If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early.

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As is to be expected with the ongoing coverage of the COVID-19 outbreak, we are aware there is currently a short supply of hand sanitiser on the Island. However it should be noted that simple hand washing for at least 20 seconds is more effective than sanitising hand gel.

If the time comes that COVID-19 is suspected or confirmed on St Helena it is important that individuals follow these steps:

- Don't panic this is a mild, self-limiting infection for almost all of us
- Self-isolate as soon as possible and call, do not visit, the hospital using the dedicated phone number: 25707
- Practice good hygiene
- Stay away from crowds and keep your distance from others.
- Keep informed via our regular updates.
- Keep up other healthy lifestyle practices. The healthier you are, the healthier your immune system is

Additional Screening measures at OR Tambo International Airport

We have been informed that Port Health at OR Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg has implemented additional screening measures and all passengers travelling through OR Tambo can now expect to go through a minimum of two Port Health screening points before reaching Immigration Control.

All passengers including those going through transit are screened by an infrared thermometer and/or a thermal scanner.

Measures and flights for additional screening at OR Tambo are continuously reviewed to reflect changing circumstances.

Keeping up-to-date

We will keep you abreast of the situation and the preventive measures put in place through a weekly news release and regular radio interviews.

A 'live' Question and Answer page is available on the SHG website at the following link: <u>https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/coronavirus-COVID-19-live-qa/</u>. You are encouraged to visit this webpage as a first stop for any questions you have on COVID-19 and St Helena.

Anyone with concerns on a particular issue relating to COVID-19 that is not already covered in the Q&A should contact: <u>marco.yon@helanta.co.sh.</u>

#StHelena #Coronavirus #COVID-19 #AltogetherHealthier

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SHG 11 March 2020

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Your Opinion Counts

Dear Editor,

Firstly, I would like to publicly thank the media for their thought-provoking and investigatory reporting in relation to the ongoing issues that surround our fishing industry; it does provide those of us operating within the industry with much needed assurance that we have not completely lost the plot and there are others within our community that share our views and frustrations.

I feel somewhat compelled to write this week, following the letter published last week by a single mother and also following conversations held recently, whereby a number of people believe that all is now well within the fishing industry, this is far from the truth.

Currently, we have approximately 50% of our commercial fishers actively fishing. The remainder have either taken up alternative employment or are left unemployed, with their vessels lying idle on the moorings. In addition, the 50% that are operating are compelled to accept a maximum of two fishing days per week, simply because our local market cannot support the volume of fish that the local fleet is able to supply during seasonal months. This is the sad reality of the situation; but should come as no surprise as this was the prime reason why St Helena invested in a Coldstore many years ago and started exported fishing.

It is also a known fact that for some fishers, the income they are currently generating is relatively attractive. They are now able to receive a more realistic price for their fish, compared to when they were offering their fish to the SHFC and getting paid on average £0.90 per kg. The concern however, is that whilst prices fishermen are now receiving for their fish is better, the volumes they are able to land is significantly reduced because the factory has no ability to freeze catches – how vulnerable will the local fishermen be because of this when the offseason returns in September? Cast our minds back a few months and I am sure most will recall the struggle it became to catch fish and indeed supply fish in the off-season for the inshore vessels. The bitter reality is that the offseason can be cruel and this can last as long as four-five months. Without the ability to capitalize on catches during the season when fish is plentiful, the off-season will prove even harder and will appear bleak, making it difficult for boat owners to sustain their individual businesses.

The decisions taken thus far by our Government do not suggest signs of development, it is the complete opposite – it reeks of limitation, but it can also be considered a clever move by them. Consider this scenario for a moment - if fishers are being made to feel vulnerable and frustrated by the limitations of the current short-term measures, don't you think they will be made to feel that accepting the alternative option will be the best option; resulting in them joining forces with SHG's preferred option and walking into the unknown.

If this is indeed the plan, it is questionable as to whether we are still living in a democratic society.

So, in summary, I can assure you that to date, things have not turned out well for the fishers but there are those among us that will continue to push forward and will not give up, until it can be proven that this process was indeed performed fairly, with the best interest of the island at heart.

Kind regards, *Julie Thomas*



Dear Constituents,

At a recent public meeting held on the 08 January 2020 at the HTH Community Centre I made the following statement. I will quote for clarity. "Elected members is currently discussing with Connect at this current time their recent proposal for Tariff increase and this will not go down well with you as it hasn't gone down well with us either. Connect is asking for another 20% increase in water Tariffs.

We have not agreed this with Connect at this moment and therefore we are asking them to come back to the table for further discussions. The subsidy for this though however, will not come from you, we will be asking for the money to be provided for within the budget, so we are actually now talking with Connect to see if there are other ways to reduce that amount of increase on the Tariffs, so we don't want to see that increase transferred to your pockets."

At the time when I made this statement I was with expectation that SHG would be able to provide the level of subsidy to cover this increase as was for this current financial year. EM's have since received feedback from questions posed to senior staff of Connect which we discussed and there is a lot of pressure on the SHG budget, so it was decided that this year the Government would provide a 50% subsidy of the 20% increase in the Tariff fee and will also provide an uplift for those in receipt of BIP and IRB to assist with the increase. I would like to take this opportunity to apologise to the community for not being able to deliver what I had hoped would be the outcome.

Some questions were also raised at a previous Unified Saints meeting pertaining to issues under the remit of the Environmental and Natural Resources Committee of which I am the Chairman. I intend to answer those question weekly and then continue to provide some information to keep you all abreast with the on-goings within the two Directorates, namely the Infrastructure and Transport Directorate and the Environmental, Natural Resources and Planning Directorate.

This week I will address the following question.

Changes have been made to a regulation that was not widely distributed e.g. the Building Regulations, which has resulted in the construction sector not

Your Opinion Counts

being aware of these changes and the additional costs placed upon customers.

The Building Regulations was reviewed and the new 2018 regulations were drafted by David Taylor.

A panel from the Technical Services Section of the then ENR Directorate were able to feed into this process.

The Consultation period was from the 24 July 2018 to 21 August 2018 as required by the Consultation Policy.

Letters of notice were sent to 6 Architects/Draughtsman, 29 Building Contractors and 10 Importers known to import goods which support the Building sector.

This was to inform them that the draft regulations were being made available for viewing and that the Building Inspectors Office was open for drop in clinics for one to one meetings on the Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 0930 to 1230 during the Consultation period.

Copies of the draft regulations were also made available and responses were received from several individuals and groups to include the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC). Off the responses received some of which were duplicated, the majority were implemented within the new regulations after additional discussion and clarification with the Drafter and the Technical team. One particular issue has been highlighted since its approval and publication. The individual was ask to make a written representation to the Building Inspectors Office. This written representation has not been received although a discussion has been had at the Building Inspectors Office.

I would encourage anyone who may feel that they have identified any issues of concern to please speak with the Building Inspectors at Essex House. Have a great week,

Russell Yon, Chairman, Environment and Natural Resources Committee.

Since 1790 Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc Clerk / Cashier has a vacancy for a For further information. including the Company's attractive benefits package, Within the Insurance Agency please contact Tracey Thomas, Job Outline Insurance Manage<mark>r</mark> on telephone number: 22860 or via email address: To assist in the day to day operations of the department by preparing policy TracevT@solomons.co.sh documentation, updating Access Dimensions files and providing an efficient service to Application forms may be collected customers. from Solomons Reception Desk, in the Main Office Building, Jamestown Interested Persons Should: or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via e-mail Possess Grade C or above in GCSE Maths & English address: hradmin@solomons.co.sh Be computer literate and should be completed and Possess good Customer Service skills returned to Miss Daryl Legg, Human Have experience in Cash Handling Resources Officer, Solomons Office, Jamestown, By 27 March 2020 Salary will start at £659.83 per month, (£7,917.96 per annum)



Pat Williams in Rupert's is looking for used or new Louvre Windows complete with stays and glasses.

If you have these tucked away in your shed collecting dust. Call Pat on telephone 22635.

ACCESS (HAUL) ROAD LANE CLOSURE

The Highways Authority has given approval for one lane to be closed on the Access (Haul) Road, near the hairpin bend above the BFI, from Tuesday, 10 March, to Friday, 27 March 2020, from 6.30am to 4.30pm (weekdays only).



This lane closure is to allow CAN France to install rockfall protection measures above the road.

All vehicles, including Emergency Services, will be granted access. However, drivers are asked to approach the area with caution.

CAN France would like to apologise for any inconvenience caused and thank the public in advance for their continued understanding and cooperation.

	Join millions of people around the world by switching of your lights for 1hr on
	Saturday 28th March 2020, starting 8:30pm. Earth Hour has become one of
EARTH HOUR	the largest grassroots movements for the environment; started in 2007 by WWF.
28 MARCH 2020	Climate change is happening at a ever increasing rate and if we don't act NOW what quality of life or availability of resources are we leaving for future
MILLENNIUM FOREST	generations?
	Come to the Millennium Forest at <mark>7:00pm</mark> , to celebrate with us
	 Talks on climate change
	 A candle lighting event for Earth Hour (8:30pm—9:30pm) - you can bring your own jar and tea light or get one from us.
	 A fun activity and make a pledge to your environment.
	"We have a single mission, to protect and hand-on the planet to the next generation" - Francois Holance (President of France)
	Unable to join us? Participate by switching of your lights during Earth Hour,
	8:30—9:30pm Follow us on Facebook @communityforests, #MillenniumForest2020
RAISE YOUR VOICE	ALEBRATH.
For Nature #connect2earth	Arronal. TRUST Marronal. TRUST Arronal. TRUST Secret of the South Atlantic



VACANCIES SOCIAL CARE OFFICER (ADULTS & COMMUNITY)

The Children & Adult Social Care Directorate is seeking to recruit suitable persons to fill their vacant posts of Social Care Officer (Adults & Community).

The Social Care Officer will provide the overall assessment and coordination function of the Adult Social Care Team. The role is also about wellbeing, community, it's about focusing on strengths not weaknesses, empowerment, safety, fairness and equality, compassion and support.

Applicants should have the following qualifications and experience:

. GCSE or equivalent in English Language at Grade C or above (applicants without a Level 2 qualification in English may still apply and can undertake a functional skills assessment as part of the recruitment process);

. Completion of NVQ level 3 qualification on Social Care or willingness to undertake;

. Valid Driving Licence;

. Experience of working with vulnerable people and supporting others

Salary for this post is Grade D commencing at £11,034 per annum.

For further information about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact Mr Philbert Howell, Team Manager (Adults & Community) on telephone number 22078 or e-mail: Philbert.howell@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms, which are available from Corporate Human Resources and Children & Adult Social Care Directorate, should be submitted through Directors where applicable, to Madonna Henry, Human Resources Officer, The Castle or e-mail madonna.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than 4pm on Tuesday, 24 March 2020.

All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a medical check and vetting/DBS clearance. SHG reserves the right to have information provided on the application form independently verified.

SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community regardless of race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, and will consider all applications on the basis of merit, in accordance with the person specification. All disabled applicants meeting the minimum criteria listed in the job profile will be guaranteed an interview.



CHECK YOUR BANK BALANCE AT ANY TIME

Did you know: Local Debit Card holders can check their balances **at any time** by dialling one simple number?

And that's not all you can do.

If you have a Local Debit Card, call our Telephone Card Services on 25335 for 24 hour automated card support.

Using this service, you can:

- ✓ Check your Account Balance
- ✓ Activate your Card
- ✓ Change your PIN Number
- ✓ Change your Card Security Number
- ✓ Block your Card

Information you will need to provide:

- ✓ Debit Card Number
- ✓ Account Number
- ✓ Date of Birth
- ✓ Card Security Number

ADD THIS NUMBER TO YOUR CONTACTS NOW!



LOCAL DEBIT CARD SERVICES, MAKING BANKING BETTER





APPLY FOR YOUR FREE LOCAL DEBIT CARD

St Helena has increased her speed: we get to South Africa faster, we receive our packages faster, so naturally, we at Bank of St Helena Ltd understand customers need to do their banking faster!

The Local Debit Card allows customers to adopt a more cashless lifestyle by using their cards in over 50 outlets around St Helena, including all bank locations. Did we mention signing up is free?

Join over 2,000 others by applying for your Local Debit Card and enjoy the increased speed and convenience of banking on St Helena.

Come and see us at our various banking locations or visit our website for more information.

The transactions you will be able to undertake using your Local Debit Card include:

Sales	Use your Debit Card to make payments for goods or services purchased from any participating business.
Cashback	When you are unable to get to the bank for a cash withdrawal, add an additional amount to your purchase of goods or services which the participating business will give back to you in cash.
Refunds	Just as you can pay automatically for goods or services using your Debit Card, participating businesses can also refund your payment automatically to your Account should you return any goods to them.

APPLY FOR YOUR FREE LOCAL DEBIT CARD TODAY!

LOCAL DEBIT CARD SERVICES, MAKING BANKING BETTER





The St Helena Independent Volume XV, Issue 14, Friday 13th March 2020



VACANCY TEMPORARY SUPPORT OFFICER

Corporate Finance has an opportunity for a Temporary Support Officer to join their Accounting Services team for a period of two months.

The post holder will be responsible to the Senior Accounts Executive and will be responsible for the accurate and efficient entry of data and monitoring of all St Helena Governments financial transactions.

Applicants should possess the following qualifications and experience:

. GCSE Maths and English at Grade C or above or an equivalent qualification

(applicants without a Level 2 qualification in Maths and English may still apply and can undertake a functional skills assessment as part of the recruitment process);

.Experience working in a Finance and Accountancy Role; and

. Experience with using a computerised software accountancy package such as Access Dimensions.

Prospective candidates should possess good IT skills in standard software programmes such as Microsoft Word, Excel and Outlook with the ability to produce accurate and clear written communications and have good oral communication skills. Candidates should be self-motivated and be an effective team player.

Salary for the post will be £6,722 per annum.

For further details about the post, interested persons should contact Miss Sarah Greentree, Business Support Manager on telephone number 22470 or e-mail: sarah.greentree@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms are available from Corporate Human Resources and on the SHG website at: www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies and should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Madonna Henry, Human Resources Officer, The Castle or e-mail madonna.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than 4pm on Wednesday, 25 March 2020.

All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a medical check and vetting/DBS clearance. SHG reserves the right to have information provided on the application form independently verified.

SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community regardless of race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, and will consider all applications on the basis of merit, in accordance with the person specification. All disabled applicants meeting the minimum criteria listed in the job profile will be guaranteed an interview.

The St Helena Independent Volume XV, Issue 14, Friday 13th March 2020

Would you like to be a part of the team at St Helena Airport? St Helena Airport has part time vacancies for:

Since 1790

Security Officers

Working hours will be according to flight operations and applicants should have good interpersonal & communication skills, and be willing to undertake the required training and the necessary background and medical checks.

Rate of pay will be £6.20 per hour

For further information, please contact Miss Tegan Knott, Agencies Administrator, on telephone number: 22523 or via email address: agencies.admin@solomons.co.sh



Bertrands Cottage - Available for fixed term rental

Enterprise St Helena (ESH) has Bertrands Cottage available for fixed term rental to the private sector or individuals interested in this Historical Building. The Cottage comes fully furnished and equipped with a Commercial Kitchen.

If interested parties would like to view the premises, they can contact Michielle Yon, Director of Resources, via email <u>Michielle.yon@esh.co.sh</u> or on telephone (00290) 22920.

Expression of interest together with a short overview of the plans for operating should be submitted to Robyn Franconi, Finance Manager, via email <u>Robyn.Franconi@esh.co.sh</u> by no later than 1200 hours (GMT) on Monday 23th March 2020.

Terms and Conditions will apply.

Application forms & Job Profiles may be collected from Solomons Reception Desk, in the Main Office Building, Jamestown or alternatively an

electronic copy can be

requested via email address:

agencies.admin@solomons.co.sh and should be completed and returned to Anya Thomas,

Human Resources

Solomons Office, Jamestown,

by 17 March 2020.

Enterprise St Helena

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The St Helena Independent Volume XV, Issue 14, Friday 13th March 2020



VACANCY CORPORATE PROCUREMENT FACILITATOR

Corporate Finance has an opportunity for a self-motivated individual to join their Procurement team on a fixed term contract for the period April to December 2020 to effectively and efficiently support and assist in the delivery of all SHG's Procurements, in accordance with SHG's Procurement Regulations.

The successful applicant will be responsible for delivering Procurement Projects through appropriate compliance of regulations and effectively managing internal and external communications in terms of SHG requirements and delivery timescales.

Applicants should possess the following qualifications and experience:

. GCSE Maths and English at Grade C or above (applicants without a Level 2 qualification in Maths and English may still apply and can undertake a functional skills assessment as part of the recruitment process);

. Good IT Skills and proficient in the use of Microsoft Applications including databases;

. At least 2 year's experience in a post that deals with the public on a regular basis.

Prospective candidates should have good communication skills, both verbal and written, in order to communicate effectively with members of the public, suppliers and Directorates.

Salary for the post is at Grade B1 commencing at £6,722 per annum.

For further details about the post, interested persons should contact Nicola Young, Deputy Head of Procurement telephone number 22470 or e-mail: nicola.young@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms are available from Corporate Human Resources and on the SHG website at: www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies and should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Madonna Henry, Human Resources Officer, The Castle or e-mail madonna.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than 4pm on Wednesday, 25 March 2020.

All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a medical check and vetting/DBS clearance. SHG reserves the right to have information provided on the application form independently verified.

SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community regardless of race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, and will consider all applications on the basis of merit, in accordance with the person specification. All disabled applicants meeting the minimum criteria listed in the job profile will be guaranteed an interview.



Special Mother's Day Offer

Complimentary Eyebrow Threading with Classic Pedicure!

Classic Pedicure - £25 - Soak, Dead Skin Removal, Foot Scrub, Cuticle Removal, Nail Clipping, Nail File, Gel Polish Overlay, Cream and Foot Massage.

Operating from Cutting Edge, Unit 14, ESH Business Park, Ladder Hill To Book an Appointment Call: 23826 or 63376 TIP OF THE WEEK

Remember to check outside for leaks too, small leaks in outside taps.

Pipes not only waste water but could cause damage to your property.





Do you have an idea for St Helena's new strapline?

St Helena Tourism is currently undergoing a rebranding exercise. As part of this exercise it has been decided that the Tourism strapline which forms part of the Tourism logo (pictured above) needs to be updated to provide an improved representation of St Helena as a Tourism destination.

The current strapline is **"Secret of the South Atlantic"** with the previous strapline being **"The most extraordinary place on earth"**.

St Helena Tourism is seeking ideas from the local community to help develop a new strapline for the island.

Strapline ideas should be submitted to Justine Green, Marketing and Communications Manager via email on <u>Justine.green@esh.co.sh</u> by 4pm on Friday, 20 March 2020 or can be handed into the Tourism Office, The Canister or the ESH office, Ladder Hill.

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Vacancy - Water Treatment Team Leader

Connect Saint Helena Ltd is seeking a suitably experienced person to fill the position of Water Treatment Team Leader in their Water Division.

The successful candidate will work as part of a team responsible for the day to day management and maintenance of the Island's water treatment plants, processes and systems. Other tasks include being responsible for the collection of water samples for laboratory testing, this is critical duty and must be carried out with diligence and accuracy through following the correct procedures.

Interested persons should have a minimum of 2 years supervisory skills, excellent communication skills, be computer literate, have a sound knowledge of Health and Safety in the workplace, have a 'can do' approach to problem solving and possess a valid drivers' licence. Experience with water treatment plant operating systems is desirable.

Salary for the post will depend on skills and experience. For further information, a full job description and further details on the Company's benefits package please contact Annalisa Young on 22255 or email <u>annalisa.young@connect.co.sh</u>

Completed application forms should be emailed to Annalisa Young at the above email address or handed in to the Connect Saint Helena Ltd main office at Seales Corner, Jamestown by 12:00 noon, Monday, 16 March 2020.





Invitation to Tender

The Saint Helena Government wishes to invite suitably experienced contractors to submit tenders for the following contract-

Refurbishment of Ex Police Headquarters for the Relocation of Judicial Services

Copies of the tender document can be obtained from

Miss Tiffany Lawrence

Procurement Officer

Essex House

Jamestown

Telephone No: 22270 tiffany.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh

or email

A site visit to view the works will take place on Thursday, 05 March 2020, at 10am, meeting at near the Public Library, Jamestown.

If you are unable to attend the site visit during this time, please contact the Procurement Officer to arrange another date & time.

Should you require any further details, please contact the Civil Engineer, Mr Christopher Peters, on telephone number 22270 or email christopher.peters@sainthelena.gov.sh. Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box at Essex House by 12noon on Monday, 16 March 2020. Interested parties should note that this opportunity is **not** being advertised overseas.



COMMONWEALTH DIGITAL ECONOMY FORUM CANCELLED

Due to the ongoing spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19), and following a recommendation from the Director of Health, the Commonwealth Digital Economy Forum, due to take place from 23-27 March 2020, has been cancelled.

Event organisers, St Helena Government, Enterprise St Helena and the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation (CTO), would like to extend thanks to all who have registered an interest in the Forum and who have helped in any way with arrangements to date.

The on-Island working group continues to liaise with CTO regarding the possibility of holding the Forum at some point in the future.

The Sure Customer Satisfaction Survey 2-31 March 2020



Sure will be launching its 2020 Customer Satisfaction Survey on Monday 2 March, which will continue through to 31 March.

The aim of our survey is to gain our customer's views of our products and services, and where possible to improve your overall customer experience with us. Our survey is designed to take no more than 5 minutes of your time. To support our national goal of 'Altogether Greener' and the use of digital platforms, we will be launching our survey via our website only. For those customers who do not have access to the Internet and our website; facilities will be available at our Customer Care Centre in Jamestown during normal working hours, and staff will also be present throughout Jamestown during the period with facilities on-the-go to allow all customers to complete the survey.

All Broadband Customers will receive an additional 100 Mb with their inclusive allowances for the month of March to ensure they are able to access the survey without having to utilise their monthly allowance to do so. We also have a Prize Draw at the end of the survey for anyone wishing to enter.

Sure will be sharing the results of the customer satisfaction survey as well as its plans to address the outcomes of the survey with our Customers and the Community throughout the month of May 2020.

We thank you for participating in our online survey and for your valuable feedback which will be used to inform our Customer Experience Programme.

Please visit our website to complete the survey:

www.sure.co.sh

Sure Customer Satisfaction Survey 2 – 31 March 2020 We want to hear from YOU!

Please take 5 minutes to let us know what you think about our products and services.

www.sure.co.sh

Additional 100MB for all Broadband customers to complete the survey!



Units available at the Jamestown Market and Longwood Enterprise Park

Enterprise St Helena (ESH) have units available for rent to local entrepreneurs for non-industrial / clean business at the Jamestown Market and Longwood Enterprise Park.

Applications should be submitted to Robyn Franconi, Finance Manager, in the form of a business brief detailing your planned business and intended opening hours with a 3 year cash flow via email <u>robyn.franconi@esh.co.sh</u> or in hard copy to the Enterprise St Helena Office, ESH Business Park by no later than 1200 hours (GMT) on Monday 16th March 2020.

Terms and Conditions apply.

For further information, please contact Michielle Yon on 22920, or alternatively via email at: michielle.yon@esh.co.sh



St Helena Island Secret of the South Atlantic

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POLICE APPEAL FOR INFORMATION

LONGWOOD AVENUE SHOP BURGLARY

St Helena Police are appealing to the public for information relating to a burglary that occurred at a shop on Longwood Avenue between 8pm on Friday, 6March, and 12pm on Saturday, 7 March 2020. As a result of this burglary, a sum of money was stolen from the premises and the Shop has been damaged causing significant loss to the owner.

Police are keen to speak to anyone with any information, regardless of how minor they consider it to be, including if they have seen anyone acting suspiciously in the Longwood Avenue area between these times.

Members of the public are asked to contact the Investigating Officer, Police Constable, James Venning, on tel: 22626 or via email: james.venning@sainthelena.gov.sh quoting reference HEHN5683, or alternatively speak with a Police Officer of your choice.



Saint FM would like to thank Paul Blake for his donation of a brand new Rode studio microphone

It has made a wonderful difference

Thank you!

	the second se	As 120 Cup continued over the weekend engers picked up a comfortable victory over V victorious against Mustangs and Allsiarz kept calive with a victory over Sandy Bay Pirates.	Noodpeckers, Heat their unbeaten			
WOODPECK	(ERS90	CHALLENGER	S 275/4			
Gary Benjamin	31	Sean Lee Thomas	55*			
Perry Leo	19*	Andrew Yon	12			
Andrew Yon	2/8	Ashton Benjamin	1/21			
Joey Thomas	2/14	Chris Owen	1/21			
PERFORMANCE POINTS: Sean Lee Thomas 3, Andrew Yon 2, Jordi Henry 1						
MUSTAN	GS 104	HEAT	108/1			
Dane Wade	41	Dax Richards	41			
Andy Williams	14*	Barry Stroud	26*			
Scott Crowie	3/20	Liam Adams	1/8			
Damian Burns	2/17					
PERFORMANCE POINTS: Scott Crowie 3, Dane Wade 2, Dax Richards 1						
PIRATES	148/6	ALLSTAR	Z 149/2			
David Young	59*	Ross Henry	72*			
AJ Bennett	32	Gareth Johnson	35*			
Gareth Johnson	2/21	Darren Isaac	1/9			
Ross Henry	2/22	David Young	1/33			
PERFORMANCE POINTS: Ross Henry 3, David Young 2, Gareth Johnson 1						
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Saturday 14 M 1.30pm Allstarz V Challe <i>Umpires: He</i>	Mar Sund gengers Woodpe	day 15 Mar Sunday 15 Sunday 15	m ions			
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Golf Report for Sunday 8th March 2020

The final round of the Charles Duncan Challenge cup stableford competition took place on Sunday 8th March 2020. The golfers seemed to struggle compared to round one, a clear proof that no two days are ever the same in the game of golf. There were surprising moves among the top five on the leaderboard. Some dropped and others went up. At the final tally of the scores emerging top with total 72 points was Mr. Jeffrey Stevens who had an impressive 38 points on the final round including the only two, an eagle two on hole number three. In second place four players tied at total 70 points. On a count back Mr. Leon Crowie emerged second and Mr. Lawson Henry took third place.

Mr. Lawson henry also won the longest drive and nearest to pin for the gents. The only female golfer to complete the 36 holes Mrs. Helena Stevens won both the nearest to pin and longest drive for the ladies. The prizes were presented by Mrs. Margaret Duncan on behalf of the Duncan Family. Congratulations to all the winners and a big thank you to The Duncan Family for your continued sponsorship.

Coming up on Saturday 14th and Sunday 15 will be another major competition on our calendar. The Flagg Challenge Cup. This will be a 36-hole stroke play competition. Tee off time

will be 12:00 on both days. Members are encouraged to register in time as the draw will be done on Friday 13th March 2020. There will be prizes for 1st 2nd and 3rd position.

We wish you all a great weekend...!

SHGC



Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

Ole Solskjaer has become the first Manchester United Manager since the retirement of Sir Alex Ferguson to beat their neighbours Man City home and away in a single season.

With just 28% procession, but with 12 shots at the goal United had a game plan that restricted Man City to limited chances. United more than merit their 2-0 win at the Eithad Stadium. Brazilian goalkeeper Ederson, gifted Solskjaer's side both goals.He allowed Anthony Martial's routine shot to squirm under his body from a quick Bruno Fernandes free-kick on the half-hour and then, with seconds left, threw a clearance straight to Scott McTominay, who showed great technique to send a long-range finish, struck first time, into the net in front of an ecstatic Stretford End.

All over the pitch Manchester United more than match their opponents; none more so that Man of the Match Wan Bissaka or as the commentator said he should have being named Two Bissaka as time after time he stopped City's attacks down the left hand side.

This win for United over City now means that Liverpool just need 6 more points to clinch this season title.



Liverpool closes in on the title with a 2-1 win over Bournemouth. Liverpool break their own record set by Bill Shankly team in 1972, as they recorded 22 successive league wins at Anfield.

Bournemouth took a surprise lead in the 9th minute although the goal should have being ruled out for a foul on defender Gomez. Two defensive errors saw Liverpool take the lead as Salah and mane scored.

. Liverpool is unbeaten in their past 55 league matches at Anfield (W45 D10). Only Chelsea between 2004-2008 (86 games) have had a longer unbeaten run at home in Premier League history.

. Since the start of last season, Bournemouth has lost more Premier League away games than any other side (24). . Bournemouth have lost all eight of their Premier League matches against teams starting the day in first place by an aggregate score of 27-4.

. Mohamed Salah is the first Liverpool player to score 20 goals in all competitions in three consecutive seasons since Michael Owen in 2000-01 and 2002-03.

. Salah has scored 70 goals in 100 Premier League appearances for Liverpool, seven more than any other player in their first 100 for the club (Fernando Torres 63). Only Alan Shearer with Blackburn (79) has scored more goals in his first 100 Premier League appearances for a club in the competition's history.

Liverpool fans experience a rare disappointing night in the Continued on NEXT PAGE

Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

Champion's League as they went out 4-2 on aggregate to Atletico Madrid after extra time.

What would have made it so hard to take for the Liverpool fans was the fact they played absolutely brilliant, creating chance after chance; 34 shots at the goal in fact. Failure to convert the chances and bad goal keeping cost them the match in the end.



Man of the Match Sadio Mane Roberto Firmino's first goal at Anfield this season at the start of the added 30 minutes gave them the lead in the tie.

Wijnaldum's first-half header was full reward for Liverpool laying siege to the Atletico goal for much of the first 90 minutes.

In the second half, Andrew Robertson was then inches away from a winner only for his header to crash against the woodwork.

And yet, as the Kop sensed another memorable Champions League victory, Adrian - deputising for the injured Alisson - paid the price for a dreadful clearance as substitute Marcos Llorente pounced with a low finish to secure Atletico's crucial away goal.

Llorente struck again with another good finish in the 105th minute, former Chelsea striker Morata scored a third in the final seconds to send Atletico through to the last eight.

Unfortunately in football you don't always get what you deserve; so many times in the Champions English teams has out played their opponents and then get knock out; it has happen to Manchester United; Arsenal and now Liverpool.

In a few weeks the season for Liverpool will be over when they pick up the league title. I guess that would be a great consolation.



Spurs miserable run continues as they loss 3-0 to RB Lepzig going out 4-0 on aggregate.

Jose Mourinho's side - who have not won in six games in all competitions - will need to find some form if they are to be back in this tournament at all next season. They are seven points behind the top four in the Premier League.

With Chelsea 3-0 down from the first leg against Bayern Munich, it possible that Man City is the only English Premier League team going into the quarter finals. City leads Real Madrid 2-1 on aggregate.

Premier League fixtures this coming weekend will see Watford play Leicester City in the early match at 12.30pm; 3pm matches will see Bournemouth host Crystal Palace; Brighton play Arsenal, Man City face Burnley at the Eithad stadium, Newcastle play Sheffield United at home and the bottom side Norwich will play Southampton at Carrow Road.

In the late match Aston Villa will play Chelsea.

On Sunday West Ham host Wolves at 2pm and Manchester United will travel to London to play Tottenham Hotspur at 4.30pm.

On Monday night Liverpool could be crown Champions if Man City lose to Burnley and they beat Everton.

What's happening at New Horizons?

After a successful first fun run the second New Horizons fun run/walk will take place on Saturday 14th March, starting at White gate at 8am. The route this Saturday will start and finish at White gate going via Scotland; Rosemary Plain, Trap Cott, up Sunny Side, Scotland and through Plantation Forest.

The last walk we had 33 people....let's make this one even bigger.

The New Horizons Athletics Club is back in full swing on Monday's. This club is open to persons of all ages starting at 3.15pm and finishing at 4.45pm.

Our next club night is tonight from 5.30pm-8.30pm.



The St Helena Independent Volume XV, Issue 14, Friday 13th March 2020

Your Opinion Counts

Dear Editor,

I Will start this letter by saying that it's not very often that I sit, and write letters to the Newspaper but it is something I have thought about for a very long time and getting an invite, from the 'St. Helena Struggles' page on Facebook has given me a reason to do so.

I am a *St.* Helenian born and bred so therefore I feel I have a right to comment Or express an opinion even though I know I will be heavily scrutinized. I would Like to give Leigh some credit for having the guts to make ,an effort to bring to light the struggles that many families on the Island are going through. It's obviously a real cause for concern: therefore this is the reason why she is working so hard to push this topic forward.

I returned to St. Helena for Christmas 2019. I spoke with many people including my family and the main topic of our conversations was how 'high the cost of living is on the island'. My heart bled for those people when I listened how they struggle to survive. I have been to many places in the world but of course the cost ,of living on St. Helena is extortionate and the wages that the majority of the people are earning does not cover this, Every time the containers arrive on St. Helena the prices Increase but the wages don't. The minimum wage is £150 per week or less before tax. The' highest state pension is £74 per week. The Minimum state pension is £54 per week.

Electricity is £0. 30per unit and anything over 1001 units it's £0.46 per unit. Water: for the first 15 units cost £1.39 any additional units will be charged at £1.84 per unit. All these costs accumulate so therefore the scales does not balance basing it on the wages so it definitely does become a struggle. (I have based this on what information I could get so therefore the figure may not be accurate but I'm sure they are very nearly there.) I was fortunate enough to ship most of my dry goods (that's food) home but then there is a Customs Duty to be paid on this which again I was shocked by how much is charged on food.

Whilst home went to; Tinkers and bought a small piece of bacon, 4 rashers of slice bacon, 4 slices of ham, a piece of cheese weighing no more than .250g and a tub of margarine. The total being £15 plus, Isn't this enough of a description to say how costly things are there. Something like a small packet of bacon bones is £2.50 upwards and that is hunting through to find the cheapest. A tin of corned beef £4, one of the essential items to a Saint for dinner. A packet of Corned Flakes touching £5, A bag of chicken portions that displays £3 from Iceland's cost £7 in the Star and the list is endless. There is always a shortage of items on the Island. Something as simple as flour can be a scarce commodity so even if families can't afford bread there is no flour to make fritters. I Was fortunate enough to have extra pennies to live comfortably whilst home having just returned back from working abroad.

Someone on Facebook asked Leigh to compare a weekly shopping basket on the island to one in the UK? Well that is really taking the Mickey. This would be absolutely ludicrous because all of us who live and work in the UK know what value we get for Our money here when going to the supermarket to do the weekly food shop.

Potatoes, onions, fish ,and vegetables sell for a very high price on the island so. all these essential everyday things become unaffordable to people who are trying to make ends meet on basic wages. The days of exchanging fish for veggies etc are long gone it's all about money.

Electricity and water prices rise immensely so someone with common sense can see that it's impossible for most people to rcpe. Some people don't even have Television, telephone or even internet because it's so unaffordable. It's cheaper to borrow a DVD than to pay ridiculous prices for television ...

There was comments about Leigh referring to people with big houses and posh cars ... Yes, most probably this was interpreted in the wrong way, but who knows the remarks was probably applying to those in Authority and who have the overall management of the islands' welfare, who makes all this harsh decisions without bearing a thought for the poor man on the street. Those are the ones who can go to sleep comfortably at night and wake in the morning without any stress or worries of where the next penny is coming from to pay the bills or put food on the table for that day.

I left St. Helena years ago to better myself and to make life more appreciable for my daughter. I made the sacrifice of leaving my daughter at the age of 7 years old with my parents. A hardemotional thing that many of us did. Had I not done this; survival would have been hard. Those days a child's maintenance money was £5 per week and that was all my daughter got from her father to survive on, hence the fact that he was paid a decent wage working on Ascension Island.Here I am years on and still away from home working to get what we need and to have some background money for my retirement.

There are so many of us Saints who have done this and is still doing exactly the same; sacrificing families to go abroad to work so that ourselves and our families can benefit and from this *by* living in a nice loan free house and driving a loan free car. But don't forget this should not be interpreted in the wrong way. The money that Saints work had; for abroad is always put back into the Island's economy. There is so many things that is overlooked on the Island, whether it's through indecisiveness or intentionally and I always wonder why?

One of them is when Saints return home from working abroad, they are being treated as visitors. We have to pay visitors fees if we need medical assistance from a doctor or dentist. I speak here from experience. In 2018 Eddie fell poorly and had to have injections but was told because he hadn't been on the island for 6 months then he must pay visitors fees. isn't this unrealistic? Our financial input into the island is by building our houses, giving the money we work hard for to the local builders and businesses, Isn't this enough to be reestablished back into the community and not treated as strangers?

People who have not experienced the hardship of how it is' to live on the Is-

Continued on NEXT PAGE

Your Opinion Counts

land should not be judgmental when there is someone out there willing to put the head on the chopping block to help others. Good positive response and concerns about the issue would be helpful and more valued than nasty remarks. I remember speaking to a person whilst home and she commented by saying that there is absolutely nothing wrong with the Island, there is nothing to worry about. My reply was it's okay for you to say because you are probably in need of nothing and can survive from day to day, being one in a hundred',

I understand that the days gone by was hard but for sure it's even harder now. There are so many people who suffer in silence on the Island. The trust of the Islanders has diminished over the years to such an extent that no one speaks out. Behind the well-mannered, smiley friendly faces is hidden torture, frustration and anger. I grew up in a small community where everyone was so relaxed and outgoing. We discussed the everyday issues of life and confided in each other.

I'll end here by saying that yes, we should be thankful for the peace and tranquility of our little island but it's hard if one is fighting financial issues. St. Helena is a lovely place and if one can survive than one will make it there. I do hope some good come of this Issue and the matter win be resolved in a professional way. Help given to those who need it. It would be so sad to see so many people disappear through depression and anxiety caused by the everyday battles of life, It's always been said that money is the route of all evil... but without it you're done ... Survival becomes an issue. For as long as the majority of people anywhere on the Island feel oppressed are not allowed participation in decision-making processes there will always be tension and conflict. Stay positive Saints. and remember there are two, things to aim for in life. First to get what you want; after that to enjoy it ... only the wisest of mankind achieve the second.

Bea McDaniel.

ST HELENA MAGISTRATES' COURT

6th February 2020

Luciano Caballero (23) of Bottom Woods, pleaded guilty to common assault and possession of cannabis. He was fined £40.00 on each charge together with costs of £15.00.

Patrick George Stevens (56) of Piccolo Hill, Longwood, pleaded guilty to being found drunk in a public place. He was fined £30.00 together with costs of £15.00.

Geralin Stuart Yon (44) of Half Tree Hollow, pleaded guilty to driving a motor vehicle whilst 52% over the prescribed limit. He was fined £230.00 and disqualified from driving for 12 months. He was also ordered to pay £15.00 costs.

Jeremy Mark Crowie (31) of Deadwood, pleaded guilty to driving a motor vehicle without third party insurance and driving a motor vehicle without a valid road licence. He was fined a total of £38.00 and disqualified from driving for 12 months. He was also ordered to pay £15.00 costs.

14th February 2020

Patrick George Stevens (56) of Piccolo Hill, Longwood, pleaded guilty to breaching a Court Protection Order issued under the Domestic Abuse Ordinance. He was fined \pounds 20.00, in default of payment thereof he was to spend 1 day imprisoned.

19th February 2020

Tracey Corker (47) of Jamestown, was found guilty after trial of an offence of causing an animal unnecessary suffering. She was fined $\pounds100.00$ together with costs of $\pounds50.00$.

20th February 2020

Phillip Arthur Robinson (63) of Wellington House, Jamestown, pleaded guilty to being in charge of a motor vehicle whilst 98% over the prescribed limit. Sentence had been adjourned for a Pre-Sentence Report. Mr Robinson was sentenced to a Probation Order for a period of 12 months. He was disqualified from driving for 18 months. He was also ordered to pay £15.00 costs.

Brandon Lee James O'Bey (24) of Deadwood, pleaded guilty to assault occasioning actual bodily harm. Sentence had been adjourned for a Pre-Sentence Report. Mr O'Bey was sentenced to 8 months imprisonment.

Selwyn Mark Stroud (19) of HM Prison, pleaded guilty to common assault. He was sentenced to 4 days imprisonment.

27th February 2020

Patrick Harold Thomas (65) of Half Tree Hollow, pleaded guilty to careless driving. He was fined $\pounds 60.00$ together with costs of $\pounds 15.00$.

5th March 2020

Clayton James Clingham (26) of Deadwood, pleaded guilty to careless driving. He was fined £65.00 together with costs of £15.00. He was also ordered to pay compensation of £120.00.

Leroy John Young (36) of No. 9 Ladder Hill, pleaded guilty to common assault. Sentence had been adjourned for a Pre-Sentence Report. Mr Young was sentenced to a Probation Order for a period of 2 years. He was also ordered as to pay $\pounds 15.00$ costs.





• CAN France drilling catchfence anchors above Ladder Hill Road, the Bulk Fuel Installation, Power Station and Rupert's Wharf

• Drilling to commence on small section of the Access (Haul) Road in next few weeks

JAMESTOWN AND RUPERT'S VALLEY ROCKFALL PROTECTION PROJECT

UPDATE

This week, CAN France are drilling catchfence anchors above Ladder Hill Road, at the Bulk Fuel Installation (BFI), Power Station and Rupert's Wharf. Drilling will shortly commence above Maldivia Road, from Cambrian House to Estcourt Gardens. Maldivia Road will remain open during the works, but road users should be aware of an increase in traffic in this area while works take place. For public safety reasons, Rupert's Wharf remains closed until construction is completed.

One drilling rig (road-based telescopic handler) finished on Ladder Hill Road on Tuesday of this week. However, the second drilling rig (on-slope rig) continues to drill anchors, and will be joined by grouting equipment this week to inject cement into the anchor holes. The closures of Ladder Hill Road and Shy Road will continue until 20 March. Ladder Hill Road is closed to vehicles and pedestrians from 9am – 3pm, Monday to Friday, and Shy Road is closed 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

18 Saint Helenians have worked alongside CAN France to date, in a range of roles such as drilling assistant, grouting team, anchor set-up and safety banksman. Efforts are continuing to employ and train local people throughout the life of the project.

In the next few weeks, drilling will also commence on one small section of the Access (Haul) Road, on the hairpin bend above the BFI. This drilling will be for the top and bottom anchors of draped rockfall netting, similar to the netting currently in place above the Jamestown Wharf.

One lane of the Access (Haul) Road will be closed, with short-term full closures during crane lifts.



Drilling above Rupert's Wharf Access Road in the early morning sun



Telescopic handler drilling on Ladder Hill Road

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The catchfences and netting will be constructed with the assistance of a helicopter, which will be based in Rupert's Valley. The helicopter will lift the fences and nets into position, which greatly increases the speed and safety of the construction process. Unfortunately, due to poor weather in Cape Town, the arrival date of the helicopter is not known at this time.

Also planned as part of the Project are a catchfence above the Hospital, two types of draped netting above Rupert's Wharf, a rock trap at the far end of Rupert's Wharf and a bespoke catchfence just below Mundens path, on the Jamestown Wharf side. The rock trap will be constructed of surplus tyres from the Island, filled with rocks and sand and placed in a two meter high bund. The construction of the rock trap and bespoke fence is currently planned for May. Construction of the fence above the Hospital will depend on the helicopter arrival date.

Once again, CAN France and Fairhurst would like to thank St Helena residents both for their patience and their welcoming spirit. The project team is available at the site compound in Rupert's Valley to answer any questions that may arise during construction.

#StHelena #RockfallProtection #AltogetherSafer

https://www.facebook.com/StHelenaGovt/

https://twitter.com/StHelenaGovt

SHG/CAN France/Fairhurst 6 March 2020



St Helena Government





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APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an Application has been received in respect of the following proposals:

- Application 2020/21: FULL Planning Application for Proposed Extension to form a Double Storey comprising Kitchen/Dining Area and Bedroom with En-Suite, the Flag, Levelwood on Parcel 0438 Silver Hill, adjacent to the property of Mr Eric Knipe. Applicant: Lina Peters.
- 2. Application 2020/22: FULL Planning Application for Proposed Extensions to form a Double Storey Dwelling, Southerns, St Pauls on Parcel 0118 Scotland. Applicant: Ian Stevens.
- **3. Application 2020/23:** Full Planning Application for **Proposed Access Road**, Deadwood on Parcel 0056 Deadwood, adjacent to the property of Mr Terrence Henry. Applicant: Gillian Fowler.
- **4. Application 2020/24:** Full Planning Application for **Proposed Removal of Limbs to Silky Oak Trees**, the Moat on Parcel JT020024 Jamestown. Applicant: Crown Estates Management, St Helena Government.
- Application 2020/25: Full Planning Application for Proposed Removal of Tree Limbs, the Canister on Parcels JT040031 and JT070015 Jamestown. Applicant: Crown Estates Management, St Helena Government.

Copies of the Applications and Plans may be inspected by prior appointment with the Planning Section, Essex House, Main Street, Jamestown, Monday to Friday, from 8.30am to 4pm. Appointments can be made with the Secretary on Telephone 22270 or email <u>Karen.Isaac@sainthelena.gov.sh</u> stating the Application Reference Number they wish to inspect.

Any person who wishes to make Representations on the above Application should make them in writing <u>within 14</u> <u>days</u> to the Planning Office, Essex House, Main Street, Jamestown or Email <u>karen.isaac@sainthelena.gov.sh</u>

Public Representation Closing Date:

4pm – 27th March 2020

Shane Williams Planning Officer

Executive Council This Week

From Tuesday's meeting of Executive Council, the top lines were discussed on Saint FM yesterday with Councillors Clint Beard and Tony Green.

Three Development Applications were discussed where Executive Council sat as Planning Authority. For the first, Council advised full development permission be granted with conditions for the proposed custody suite at Coleman House in Jamestown. With the present custody suite at HM Prison condemned as not fit for purpose, the new development will allow short-term custody of offenders prior to release or before going to Court. It was agreed that adequate sound-proofing will form part of building control requirements as will other issues surrounding adequate security measures, to provide improved and more functional facilities for the police and immigration services that operate from the building.

Whilst there is some historic significance of the site due to its past use as a burial ground, the impact of the development can be managed through the use of appropriate conditions.

Council has advised that full development permission should be granted with conditions, to build a new prison and custody building on the land in Bottom Woods. The proposed development is to provide a new prison centered around 26 single-occupancy cells in a single-storey block, configured in a cross-shape, together with associated rooms to provide education, rehabilitation, training, worship, recycling, visiting, horticulture, healthcare and sports, as well as a medical room, kitchen, storage, administration works and security. Members noted several general questions and comments which raised concern in respect of the impact on the functions of the Airport and its aviation operations, and impact of the sewage system on the environment, but took comfort that the Land Dev Control Authority had considered all the issues and adequate mitigating measures were in place.

They also gave their full support that a Wirebird Management Plan be put in place. Council recognized that a new purpose-built prison for STH is a long overdue project and that

On 4th September 2017 an SHG press release proudly announced, "Helena Government has today, Monday 4 September 2017, published a Consultation Policy." The announcement added, "During the election period, prospective Councillors reported that constituents wanted better engagement from them and also to speed up the processes for bringing about changes. A workshop held in 2016 with the previous Legislative Council also highlighted these issues." Looking forward to a brighter, better future the announcement closed by claiming, "The new Consultation Policy sets out some ways in which better consultation with the public can be achieved."

Fast forward to 28th February 2020, the date on the 2nd Sarkin Report, we have Professor Sarkin pointing out on page 9, paragraph 25, that very few people appear to know about the policy and even those who are generally well informed do not know about it and even less people are knowledgeable about its contents.

they would like to see the project progressed as soon as possible.

Executive Council also advised that full development permission be granted with conditions for the replacement of existing and additional Solar Type Street Lights in the Jamestown Conservation Area. Although additional lights for the Castle Gardens will not be provided under this project, members were advised that the new lights will increase illumination in the area, with a further assessment to be made when the project is completed. This project will ensure that the historic areas of Jamestown are preserved, restored and enhanced with the placement of heritage street lamps and will contribute to the economic well-being of the Island through jobs in the construction sector. It was also noted that new solar-powered lights would reduce the current amount of funding requirements on electricity with the design and details of the new street lighting, compliant with the 'Dark Skies' initiative.

Also at Tuesday's meeting, Executive Council approved the Pensions (Amendment) Bill 2020, be printed, published and presented at next month's formal meeting of Legislative Council. The proposed changes to the Ordinance provide for the award of pensionable entitlements to qualifying officers who have been transferred on divestment and are medically boarded before their normal retirement age. Members agreed that it was fair and right that people who are medically boarded are able to access their pension. Council also endorsed the Waste Management Policy January 2020, which they recognized as a good piece of work that aligned with the goals of the Island's 10-year Plan. Volumes of waste being land-filled at Horse Point are increasing and the available landfill space is rapidly reducing. An opportunity to delay the replacement of this asset comes with introducing a recycling program to the Island. In addition to increasing the life of the landfill site, this would provide cost efficiencies to SHG and the private sector through export of recyclable waste & possible substitution for imported raw materials; as well as enabling the Waste Management Services to be more financially self-supporting.

The Mystery of the Missing Consultation Policy

Sarkin also says the Consultation Policy was adopted and "seemingly published", inferring government officials could not find any reference to it when asked about it. It took the Independent just two minutes to track down the press release announcing its existence. On 4th September 2017 SHG announcement also stated the policy could be found on the publications page of the SHG website and gave the link so it could be located easily. Try using that link now and the result is, "Oops! That page can't be found." The policy has been erased from the face of the earth. There are several reports and policies dated 2017 on the publications page of the SHG website; but not the policy which sets out better ways to consult with 'the public'.

This is even more regrettable when Professor Sarkin states in his 2nd Report that the Consultation Policy is useful and should itself be the subject of public consultation before being set as legislation and having the force of law behind it. When that happens, Sarkin says, any processes which to not comply

The Mystery of the Missing Consultation Policy

with the required consultation legislation will not be valid. Getting the forgotten Consultation Policy on to the Statute Book should begin now, recommends Professor Sarkin.

The 7 page Consultation Policy tells us the Government has developed a new approach to consultation and engagement, to meet the challenges ahead. The policy paper explains, "Corporate Services will compile a consultation register that will set out and manage consultations to avoid duplication and fatigue" and adds, "Before a consultation begins, a brief will be produced that will spell out that rationale for the policy/ legislation, how it will impact on the community in terms of socially, economically and environmentally."

The Consultation Policy had five key objectives before it entered the Black Hole in the Castle. They were:

(1) Ensuring that there is a clear understanding of, and commitment to consultation and engagement by Elected Members and Officers

(2) Ensuring that the views of local people are used to set priorities and influence policy and decision making

(3) Ensuring consultation and engagement is inclusive, wellcoordinated, achieves value for money and meets high quality standards

(4) Providing clear and timely feedback following all consultation and engagement through a two way communication process; namely providing clear, customer friendly, information on what the consultation is about, how this will affect the Island (5) Achieving continuous improvement by learning from the evaluation of all significant consultation and engagement activity.

The policy mentions the need to avoid consultation fatigue, use more effective ways to notify when and what consultation is about to start and use one or more of a range of consultation methods including posting on social media, focus groups and citizens' panels as well as the usual community centre meetings. Other consultation options which were adopted as official policy in 2017 were; open days, road shows, exhibitions, surgeries, user satisfaction surveys, questionnaires, face-to-face informal discussion, user panels and citizens' juries.

Structured analysis and publication of the consultation results and feedback is supposed to be available on the SHG website within 28 days of completion of the consultation. 28 days after that further information is supposed to the added to the SHG website explaining what was learnt from the consultation and how the information has been used. Corporate Services is identified as the department responsible for ensuring this information is published. Corporate Services are also identified in the Policy as the department to support all forms of consultation and provide facilitation skills and training when required.

Despite the Consultation Policy being officially adopted no action was ever taken to implement it. Because it was forgotten about and lost we have what we have always had.

MANAGEMENT OF THE JAMESTOWN SWIMMING POOL & LEASE OF THE MULE YARD EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

St Helena Government (SHG) is seeking Expressions of Interest from individuals/ organisations interested in the following:

Lot 1: Management of the daily running of the Jamestown Swimming Pool



Lot 2: Lease of the Mule Yard

Successful individuals/organisations will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the swimming pool on a commercial basis, whilst being compliant with all laws, regulations and rules and procedures in relation to the operation of the Pool.

and/or

Successful individuals/organisations will be responsible for the management of the Mule Yard on a commercial basis, whilst being compliant within the Lease Agreement.

Expressions of Interest should be registered on the St Helena Government e-procurement system 'in-tend' which can be accessed via: https://in-tendhost.co.uk/sainthelena following registration on the system.

User guides are available via the 'Supplier Information' tab to assist prospective suppliers registering on the e-Procurement system.

Any assistance required in registering should be addressed to the SHG Procurement Office for the attention of Nicola Young, via e-mail: nicola.young@sainthelena.gov.sh or on telephone number: (00 290) 22470.

The deadline for Expressions of Interest is 12:00 GMT on Wednesday, 18 March 2020.

(NB: This EOI does not restrict any parties interested in the next stage of procurement). *SHG*, *5 March 2020*



RESTAURAN¹

 $\gamma Y K$

Mothering Sunday Buffet Luncheon Sunday, 22 May 2020 from 12H00



Reservations: Please contact

23116 / 51573

MENU

Fresh garden salad Pasta salad Carrot salad Hawaii

- Barbegue chicken Beef curry Roast pork belly Grilled tuna medallions Flavoured rice Seasonal vegetables
 - Chocolate fountain Carrot cake Crème Brûlée
 - £ 26.00 per person Kids under 12 years £ 13.00 per person

There's no greater love than that of a Mother.