

THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
of the
ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

30th March 2022

Proposition No. P.2022/11

Policy & Resources Committee

Establishment of a Development Agency

AMENDMENT

Proposed by: Deputy G A St Pier

Seconded by: Deputy M A J Helyar

To delete Proposition 2 and insert the following:

- “2. To agree to establish the political oversight group (as set out in paragraph 5.9.2.7) which shall:
- Have oversight of the appointment process of a board for the Development Agency (as set out in paragraph 5.9.2.8) and thereafter make recommendations of appointments to the board for approval by the States;
 - Discharge the role as the guarantor on behalf of the States (as set out in paragraph 5.9.2.10);
 - Have responsibility for certifying that the Long-Term Development Plan is consistent with the decisions and strategic directions of the States of Guernsey and its strategies and policies as may be amended from time to time;
 - Undertake a comprehensive review of the strategic direction every five years in accordance with paragraph 9.14, or sooner should the political oversight group consider it necessary to do so, for approval by the States;
 - Deliver the annual report of the Development Agency to the Policy & Resources Committee for submission to the States for debate (as set out in paragraph 6.7);
 - Comprise three States’ Members, one nominated by each (but need not be a Member) of the Policy & Resources Committee, the

Committee *for the* Environment & Infrastructure and the Committee *for* Economic Development.

- 2A. To direct the Policy & Resources Committee to develop and set out for approval by the States the Terms of Reference, any delegated authorities and clear financial arrangements for the political oversight group (based on the principles set out in paragraph 7.5).”

Rule 4(1) Information

- a) The propositions contribute to the States’ objectives and policy plans by seeking to establish an appropriate governance structure and to ensure that the Long-Term Development Plan to be implemented by the Development Agency, which constitutes a top ten prioritised Recovery Action in the Government Work Plan, is subject to an appropriate level of political oversight and approval and accords with the States’ approved strategic direction.
- b) In preparing the propositions, consultation has been undertaken with a number of members of committees with stakeholder interest.
- c) The propositions have been submitted to Her Majesty’s Procureur for advice on any legal or constitutional implications.
- d) There are no additional financial implications to the States of carrying the proposal into effect.

Explanatory note

These propositions seek to clarify a number of points of governance which are referenced in the policy letter but which would benefit from specific direction from the States.

The amendment seeks to provide an appropriate level of assurance in respect of the role and responsibilities of the political oversight group, as well as ensuring an appropriate level of oversight for the Long-Term Development Plan by directing that the political oversight group has responsibility for certifying that the Long-Term Development Plan is consistent with the decisions and strategic directions of the States of Guernsey and its strategies and policies as may be amended from time to time – effectively, responsibility for approving the Long-Term Development Plan.

There is an inconsistency in the policy letter with regard to the review cycle for the strategic direction, being either four or five years. The amendment provides that it is reviewed on a five-yearly basis to demonstrate that the programme of work is designed to transcend political terms.

Paragraph 6.7 of the policy letter states that the Development Agency will deliver an annual report to the political oversight group and the States. The amendment clarifies that the consideration of the annual report by the States will require the submission of the annual report for debate by a policy letter from the Policy & Resources Committee.

The amendment also seeks to recognise that whilst the Policy & Resources Committee, Committee *for the* Environment & Infrastructure and Committee *for* Economic Development have a particular interest in the progress of this Recovery Action, it may be beneficial to allow flexibility for those committees to recommend States' Members from outside their own committee as a member of the political oversight group, for example where a Member has particularly relevant skills or experience.