

GD No: 2016/0076



Isle of Man
Government

Reilys Ellan Vannin

Council of Ministers

FRAMEWORK FOR A PROGRAMME FOR GOVERNMENT

NOVEMBER 2016

In Tynwald

The Chief Minister to move –

That Tynwald supports:

1. The guiding principles and high level objectives of the Council of Ministers as set out in the document 'Framework for a Programme for Government';
2. That the Council of Ministers returns to Tynwald in January 2017 with the Programme for Government;
3. That the Council of Ministers provides an update on the Programme for Government at the October 2017 sitting of Tynwald, and each October thereafter, including an opportunity for debate on the matter.

Introduction from the Chief Minister

Since the Council of Ministers was appointed in October of this year, we have worked hard to identify the priorities for this Government for the next five years and beyond. We have listened to the views of Tynwald Members and our constituents, as well as those of the business community. Council sees the development of a Programme for Government as an ongoing process which responds to the changing world around us.

For the first stage of the development of our programme, we are setting out our purpose, objectives and guiding principles. These will be subject to debate by Tynwald and will ultimately form the foundations on which our Programme for Government is built. Everything else, including legislation, priorities and budgets will be based on the objectives and principles set out in this document, subject to Tynwald approval.

I said in my manifesto that I wanted a Government that was inclusive. I believe we are meeting that aim, but there is more to do. I want to bring our Programme for Government to January Tynwald. This is a challenging deadline, but it is important that we demonstrate momentum and leadership. Over the coming months we will develop our programme in partnership and consultation with others. We want our plan to be inclusive and representative because it is only by working together that we can achieve the best for the Isle of Man.

Introduction from the Minister for Policy and Reform

I am pleased to support the Chief Minister to lead an inclusive government.

The first task of any new administration should be to prepare and publish a Programme for Government. Policy matters. That is just what this new Government is doing, thereby taking a fresh approach and making a new start.

I am also pleased to say that we are addressing the development of policies, principles and priorities in an inclusive and collaborative way.

Initially this has been in Council of Ministers and Tynwald workshops. Then key policies need to be worked out alongside a legislative programme and action plan. That's where I am contributing.

Cabinet Office, and the Council of Ministers policy and legislative sub-committees which I chair, will work to challenge and refine policy and to ensure links are made so that the Programme for Government can be delivered.

Already more than thirty desired policy 'outcomes' have been identified in workshops which are included in this document as draft for discussion. Now we need to specify perhaps twenty projects to deliver these policy outcomes by the end of 2020, a "20 by 20" approach to the 2017-2021 Programme for Government.

Restoring free TV licences to those 75 and over is a small step along the way to better needs and means tested provision. There is more to do. .

Ministerial and Tynwald colleagues can work together to make government and the economy work better for more people and thus to "restore public trust in government", as the Chief Minister wrote in his manifesto. Government can bring real and lasting change, not just change for change's sake, but targeted change that will make a real and positive difference in people's everyday lives.

Let's do it.

Initial Priorities shared with Tynwald Members

The Council of Ministers have considered their initial priorities and listened to the views of Tynwald Members. Those areas where there is currently a shared consensus on priority are as follows:

- Creating the environment for economic growth;
- Ensuring lifelong learning (starting with preschool) and that education is aligned with economic needs;
- New population and appropriate taxation policies;
- Making sure our planning system supports growth in a sustainable manner;
- Reforming government to ensure the right services are delivered in the right place at the right cost;
- A sea services agreement which meets the needs of our Island community; and
- Affordable and sustainable health and social care.

These priorities will form part of our programme for Government. We will build on them in the coming months before returning to Tynwald in January with a completed document for debate.

Our Island: a special place to live and work

Inclusive. Tolerant. Sustainable.

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES	Delivering support to people where needed	Promoting lifelong learning that meets our social and economic needs	Upholding inclusive, tolerant, safe and sustainable communities	Making government effective for all	Maintaining our strong identity and international reputation	Enabling people to live healthier lives	Empowering enterprise for innovation and economic growth
	Appropriate benefits based on individual needs	Education is matched to our skills requirements	A natural and built environment which we conserve and cherish and which is adapted to cope with the threats from climate change	Open and transparent Government which engages effectively with Tynwald and the Public	We engage, participate and are respected internationally	Sustainable Health & Care services which are responsive to our changing needs	Local entrepreneurship is supported and thriving and more new businesses are choosing to call the Isle of Man home

Outcomes	Sustainable spending on services which meet the needs of our communities	Early years education that gives the best start in life	We live in well-designed, safe and sustainable places where we can access the services we need	Our legislation and regulation regimes are more responsive	We take pride in our unique culture and national identity	People are able to maintain their independence as they get older and to get the support they need	An open and dynamic environment for business supporting a diverse and growing economy
	We have improved the quality of life for children, young people and families at risk	We are a digital Island with skills to match	Sustainable food, fisheries and agriculture supporting food security	Our planning system supports sustainable growth	We are seen as a tolerant, welcoming and inclusive place to live	We live longer, healthier lives	New and established businesses are encouraged to flourish



OUR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES



An inclusive and caring society



An Island of enterprise and opportunity



Financially responsible Government

Timetable

The Council of Ministers proposes the following timetable for delivery of the Programme for Government:-

January 2017

Full version of the Programme for Government published, including five year plan and priorities

February 2017

Treasury Minister delivers the budget

March 2017

National performance indicators linked to the Programme for Government published

October 2017

Annual policy and performance debate