

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CHIEF OFFICER GROUP
HELD ON TUESDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2018 AT 10.00 IN THE KING ORRY ROOM,
CABINET OFFICE, GOVERNMENT OFFICE**

Present: Mr W Greenhow, Chief Secretary, Cabinet Office
Prof R Barr, Chief Executive, Department of Education and Children
Mr N Black, Chief Executive, Department of Infrastructure
Mr M Kelly, Chief Executive, Department of Home Affairs
Mr M Lewin, Acting Chief Executive, Department for Enterprise
Mrs S Lowe, Chief Financial Officer, Treasury
Ms M Morris, Executive Director of Health, Department of Health and Social Care
Miss K Parkinson, Executive Assistant to the Chief Secretary, Cabinet Office

Apologies: Dr M Couch, Chief Executive, Department of Health and Social Care
Mr R Lole, Chief Executive, Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture

012/18 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23 JANUARY 2018

Having been previously circulated the minutes of the Chief Officer Group ("the Group") monthly meeting held on 23 January 2018, were agreed and subsequently signed by the Chief Secretary.

013/18 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9 JANUARY 2018

There were no matters arising.

Mrs Jane Poole-Wilson, Equality Champion, Jon Callister, Executive Director, Office of Human Resources, Cabinet Office and Dan Davies, Director Change and Reform and Executive Office, Cabinet Office were in attendance for the following item.

014/18 EQUALITY ACT UPDATE

The Director, Change and Reform and Executive Office, Cabinet Office provided the Group with an overview stating that the Appointed Day Order for the Act had been approved by Tynwald and the protected characteristics of the Act would be brought into force as follows:

January 2019

- GENDER REASSIGNMENT
- MARRIAGE AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP
- PREGNANCY AND MATERNITY
- RACE
- RELIGION OR BELIEF
- SEX
- SEXUAL ORIENTATION

January 2020

- AGE
- DISABILITY
- EQUAL PAY FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE

The Equality Champion, Mrs Jane Poole-Wilson, MLC, provided the Group with an overview on the work being undertaken so far for the implementation of the

Equality Act.

The Equality Champion added that a project board was established to oversee the roll out of the Act. The project board would also provide support across Government, to the Third and Private Sectors. Representatives from the major areas affected by the Act were included on the Board, including DfE, DESC, AGC and OHR. The Project Board would require representatives to attend from other parts of Government, as necessary.

The Equality Champion added that there were three key areas which the Project Board were looking at:

- 1) Training provision for the public sector (e.g. Equality and Diversity Training)
- 2) Raising employee, public and private sector awareness of the provisions in the new Act to ensure readiness for the provisions in the Act through the development of guidance and other information
- 3) Ensuring the Public Sector addressed priority areas to ensure compliance with the Act

The Chief Secretary commented that anytime the Equality Champion felt she needed to return to the Group to provide an update or seek support then they would be happy for her to return as often as she felt necessary.

Caldric Randall, Financial Controller was in attendance for the following item.

015/18 SAVE UPDATE

The Financial Controller provided the Group with an update on the SAVE programme, and advised that the Minister for Treasury would be providing an update in Tynwald in May on all SAVE initiatives.

The Group discussed two projects which have already received the Council of Ministers approval:-

- Higher Education consolidation
- Attorney General's Chambers – Public Defender Unit

The Financial Controller encouraged Departments to meet and discuss with Treasury where it was felt the projects required extra resource or additional funding.

The Financial Controller added that the SAVE Sub-Committee were now looking at second round SAVE initiatives.

The Chief Executive, DoI stated that the Group needed to manage the impact on staff and may be something we ask the Executive Director, OHR to assist with.

Dan Davies, Director Change and Reform and Executive Office, Cabinet Office and Jennie Wheeler, Change and Reform Programme Lead, Cabinet Office

016/18 PROGRAMME FOR GOVERNMENT

The Director Change and Reform and Executive Office provided an update to the Group, and asked the Group to look at the Programme for Government year 2 amendments to the actions, and advise if they had any additional changes or confirm if they were content with those that had already been made.

It was agreed that the Director Change and Reform and Executive Office would raise the matter of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment at the Social Policy and Children's Committee due to be held on Friday 16 February.

It was agreed that the Change and Reform Programme Lead would make the additional amendments and circulate to the Group.

The Group thanked both the Director Change and Reform and the Change and Reform Programme Lead for all their hard work on the Programme for Government so far.

The Director Change and Reform asked the Group whether the licence for the dialogue tool should be renewed. The Group agreed that the licence should be renewed to enable Government Departments to have dialogue and discussion on specific topics which wouldn't necessarily require a consultation. It was also confirmed that the tool held all of the public responses received on the SAVE Programme.

017/18 MEETING OUR POPULATION CHALLENGES

The Group noted the paper on Population Challenges and it was agreed that a further workshop with the Group would be held in due course.

018/18 IOM BUSINESS CONFIDENCE SURVEY

The Group noted the Business Confidence Survey report, the Chief Executive, DFE stated that he had some amendments on the report which he would feed back to the Economic Affairs Division, Cabinet Office.

019/18 IOM EARNING SURVEY

The Group noted the paper on the IOM Earning Survey.

020/18 BREXIT

The Chief Secretary provided an update to the Group on international matters, it was agreed that a workshop would be arranged for the Group when the Head of IoM Brussels Office was on Island in March.

021/18 COG PLAN 2018

The Group made some amendments to the workshop plan for both the Group and the Council of Ministers. The Executive Assistant to the Chief Secretary to make the amendments and circulate to the Group.

022/18 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting ended at 12.20pm

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W. Alao
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Chief Secretary
13/3/18
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Date

