



Extract of Proceedings in the Council of Ministers during July 2020

Part I Decisions made by Council

Stay Responsible

The challenges posed by the Coronavirus [SARS-CoV-2] pandemic [COVID-19] requires a clear and joined up response

Emergency Powers Act 1936

Council considered and agreed that the following instruments under the Emergency Powers Act 1936 be made and submitted to Tynwald:

- Emergency Powers (Coronavirus) (Continuation) (No. 2) (Amendment) Regulations 2020

Economic Recovery Programme

Council considered papers submitted by the Treasury and Department for Enterprise and agreed the Economic Recovery Framework, to be delivered by the Economic Recovery Group, to provide ongoing financial support to businesses and individuals through the establishment of an Economic Recovery Fund.

Economic Recovery Programme – Tourism and Travel Sector

Council considered a paper submitted by the Department for Enterprise and agreed to the extension of the Strategic Capacity Scheme and the Financial Assistance Scheme, to provide ongoing financial support to businesses and individuals in the Tourism and Travel sectors.

Economic Recovery Programme – Manx Earnings Replacement Allowance

Council considered a paper submitted by the Treasury and agreed that the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 (Application) (Amendment) (No. 9) Order 2020 and Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 (Application) (Amendment) (No. 10) Order 2020, be made and submitted to Tynwald.

Economic Recovery Programme – Salary Support Scheme

Council considered a paper submitted by the Treasury and agreed that the COVID 19 Salary Support (Amendment) (No.5) be made and submitted to Tynwald.

Economic Recovery Programme – Agricultural Development and Coronavirus Fisheries Industry Support Scheme

Council considered a paper submitted by the Department of Environment Food and Agriculture and agreed that the Agricultural Development and Coronavirus Fisheries Industry Support (Amendment) Scheme 2020 be made and submitted to Tynwald.

Economic Recovery Programme – Social Care Staff (Coronavirus) Support Payment Order

Council considered a paper submitted by the Treasury and agreed that the Social Care Staff (Coronavirus) Support Payment Order 2020 be made and submitted to Tynwald.

Economic Recovery Programme – Working Capital Loan Scheme

Council considered a paper submitted by the Department for Enterprise and agreed to provide a safety net for viable businesses to access working capital, through the introduction of a Working Capital Loan Scheme – which would require Treasury to enter into a Guarantee with participating banks, in line with existing powers under the Financial Provisions and Currency Act.

Economic Recovery Programme – Income Tax (Social Security Benefits) (Exemption) Order

Council considered a paper submitted by the Treasury and agreed that the Income Tax (Social Security Benefits) (Exemption) Order 2020 be made and submitted to Tynwald.

Economic Recovery Programme – Modification to Personal Allowances in relation to Jobseeker's Allowance

Council considered and agreed a paper submitted by the Treasury and agreed that the Social Security Legislation (Benefits) (Application) (Amendment) (No. 9) Order 2020 be made and submitted to Tynwald.

Economic Recovery Programme – Modification to Income Support in relation Lone Parents

Council considered a paper submitted by the Treasury and agreed that the Income Support (General) (Isle of Man) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 2020 be made and submitted to Tynwald.

Economic Recovery Programme – Revolving Credit Facility

Council considered a paper submitted by the Treasury, and agreed, subject to Tynwald approval, that the Treasury enter into a revolving credit facility to a maximum of £250m with a term of two years extendable for two one-year options at the lenders discretion, with an initial drawdown of £40m over a three month interest period.

Economic Recovery Programme – Summer Holiday Meals Voucher Scheme

Council considered a paper submitted by the Department of Education, Sport and Culture and agreed that the School Summer Holiday Meal Voucher Scheme 2020 be made and submitted to Tynwald.

Borders Framework – Review

Council considered papers submitted by the Cabinet Office and the Department of Health and Social Care providing an update on the current IOM and UK COVID-19 situation, and initiated a review of the current Borders Framework and the mitigations to protect the Island.

Council determined that: with effect from 3 July 2020 the limit on passenger numbers per week be revised; the requirement for passengers to book travel through the Government Booking Team be removed and individuals take responsibility, once issued with an exception certificate, for making their own travel arrangements; the development of a Travel Notification Service Team [within Cabinet Office] to deliver the operational aspects of the Border Framework including an online application and landing form system; that from 20 July 2020 the Border Framework would move to Level 4 including the continuation of the 14 days self-isolation period; that guidance be published to assist travellers and provide public information; and that dialogue continued with Aurigny Airlines in relation to the established Air-Bridge with Guernsey.

Testing Pathways

Council considered a paper submitted by the Department of Health and Social Care and approved the financial provision for the delivery of the proposed testing requirements for patients, in order to recommence planned care, and the essential worker risk mitigation pathway.

Border Framework – Testing Options

Council considered a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office and, noting that a testing regime would continue to be needed in the long term, agreed that a range of options together with costs be explored, in order to develop a pathway for testing of all travellers at Day-7 at £50 per test, and to develop an online booking and payments system in readiness for such implementation in the future.

Response to Public Accounts Committee Emergency Scrutiny Fourth Report – Decision Making, Risk and Exiting the Emergency

Council considered a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office and agreed the Council of Ministers' Response to the Public Accounts Committee Emergency Scrutiny Fourth Report – Decision Making, Risk and Exiting the Emergency, and that such be submitted to the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee [Hon J Watterson SHK].

Preserving records of the Isle of Man's COVID-19 response

Council considered a paper submitted by the Department for Enterprise and agreed the immediate prohibition of destruction of Government records relating to COVID-19, in order that the Public Record Office could carry out the selection and transfer of records into the national archives, under section 3 of the Public Records Act 1999, relating to the Isle of Man

Government's COVID-19 response and that this take place as early as possible after the end of the pandemic, beginning in 2021.

Enterprise and Opportunity Island
We have Island transport that meets our social and economic needs

London Air Services Update

Council considered a paper submitted by the Department of Infrastructure outlining the updated position in respect of London air routes, and agreed that work continue with the Treasury to support provision.

Isle of Man Steam Packet Update and Vessel Financing

Council considered a paper submitted by the Treasury providing an update on the current position regarding the Company's proposed purchase of a new vessel and agreed that a Letter of Comfort be issued in respect of the vessel financing.

Enterprise and Opportunity Island
We have an education system which matches our skills requirements now and in the future

Education (Student Awards) (Modification) Regulations 2020

Council considered a paper submitted by the Department of Education, Sport and Culture and agreed that the Education (Student Awards) (Modification) Regulations 2020 be made and submitted to Tynwald.

Enterprise and Opportunity Island
We have an infrastructure which supports social and economic wellbeing

Organisational change to enact the Recommendations of the ARUP report "Laxey Flood of 1st October 2019 Independent Review"

Council considered a paper submitted by the Department of Infrastructure and agreed that a Transfer of Functions Order be prepared to facilitate the transfer the functions, funding and staff related to coastal erosion protection and flood risk management to the Department of Infrastructure.

Enterprise and Opportunity Island
We have utilities that support our Island communities and businesses

Negotiations with Manx Gas Limited

Council considered presentations and papers submitted by the Cabinet Office providing updates and options on the negotiating position of Manx Gas Limited and agreed, that a voluntary agreement be pursued; that the existing loan agreement between Manx Utilities and the Treasury be modified; and the approach to the submission of the Heads of Terms Agreement to Tynwald.

Energy Policy Statement – Hydrocarbon Exploration

Council considered a paper submitted by the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture and agreed to issue the prepared energy policy statement to Crogga Ltd.

Responsible Island

We have public services which are fit for purpose, modern and provided in the right place

Appointment of a Land Commissioner

Council considered a paper submitted by Cabinet Office and approved the appointment of Deemster Gough as an additional Land Commissioner for the specified proceedings as detailed, in accordance with Section 2 of the Land Registration Act 1982.

Responsible Island

We have more responsive legislation and regulation

Animal Welfare Bill 2020

Council considered a paper submitted by the Department for Environment, Food and Agriculture and agreed that drafting instructions be submitted to the Attorney General's Chambers in relation to the Animal Welfare Bill 2020.

Civil Contingencies Bill and the Courts, Government and Local Authority Procedures and Miscellaneous Provisions Bill

Council considered a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office and agreed the next steps in relation to the progress and public consultation in respect of the Civil Contingencies Bill and the Courts, Government and Local Authority Procedures and Miscellaneous Provisions Bill.

Responsible Island

We engage, participate and are respected internationally

UK/EU negotiations update

Council considered a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office providing an overview on the Isle of Man and Crown Dependencies stance in respect of UK/EU negotiations, and agreed the Isle of Man's position, specifically in respect of goods and services.

UK-Japan Free Trade Agreement

Council considered a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office and agreed that the provisions that relate to customs matters in the UK's new Free Trade Agreement with Japan be extended to the Isle of Man.

Extension of International Labour Organisation Fundamental Conventions to the Island

Council considered a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office and agreed relevant International Labour Organisation Fundamental Conventions be extended to the Island, including:

- Equal Remuneration Convention 1951
- Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention 1958
- Minimum Age Convention 1973
- Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention 1999
- Forced Labour Convention 1930
- Modern Slavery Act 2015 (of Parliament)

European Union (Terrorism Sanctions and Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2020

Council considered a paper submitted by the Treasury and agreed the European Union (Terrorism Sanctions and Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2020 be made and submitted to Tynwald.

Sustainable Island

We have a planning system which supports sustainable growth

Appointment of Planning Committee Lay Members

Council considered a paper submitted by the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture and agreed the approach to the appointment of two lay member positions of the Planning Committee that were due to fall vacant in November 2020.

Sustainable Island

We have a natural and built environment which we conserve and cherish and which is adapted to cope with the threats from climate change

Climate Change Bill 2020

Council considered papers submitted by the Department for Environment Food and Agriculture and agreed that the draft Climate Change Bill 2020 be submitted to Tynwald and that the public consultation be launched from 21 July 2020 for a period of six weeks.

Healthy and Safe Island

We have improved the quality of life for children, young people and families at risk

Capacity Legislation – Policy and Consultation

Council considered a paper submitted by the Department of Health and Social Care and noting the policy and scope of the proposed legislation and agreed that the public consultation on the development of the Capacity Bill be launched in August 2020.

*Healthy and Safe Island
We live our lives safe from crime and danger*

Global Human Rights Sanctions: Extension of UK law to the Island

Council considered a paper submitted by Treasury and agreed that the Global Human Rights Sanctions (Isle of Man) Order 2020 be made by the Privy Council.

Part II Council noted the following Matters

*Stay Responsible
The challenges posed by the Coronavirus [SARS-CoV-2] pandemic [COVID-19] requires a clear and joined up response*

COVID-19 Antibody Testing Preliminary Results

Council noted a presentation provided by the Department of Health and Social Care in relation to the preliminary results and findings of the initial antibody testing project.

Financially Responsible Government

Isle of Man Budget Update 2020 ("Purple Book")

Council noted a paper submitted by the Treasury presenting the 2020 Budget Update ("Purple book") and associated matters.

*Enterprise and Opportunity Island
We have utilities that support our Island communities and businesses*

Manx Utilities' Advanced Metering Infrastructure Programme

Council noted a paper submitted by Manx Utilities providing information in relation to the development and progress of Manx Utilities' Advanced Metering Infrastructure Programme, and that the installation was intended for completion by the end of 2023.

*Inclusive and Caring Island
We have affordable and accessible housing which meets our social and economic needs*

Private House Condition Survey 2018-2020

Council noted papers submitted by the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture providing information in relation to cross-government commitment to explore the learning, implications and opportunities following the publication of the report of the 2018-2020 Private Sector House Condition Survey.

Inclusive and Caring Island

We have open and transparent Government which engages effectively with Tynwald and the public

Isle of Man Inflation Report – June 2020

Council noted a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office providing information in relation to June 2020 Isle of Man Inflation Report prior to publication.

Isle of Man Inflation Report – July 2020

Council noted a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office providing information in relation to the July 2020 Isle of Man Inflation Report prior to publication.

Isle of Man Labour Market Report – June 2020

Council noted a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office providing information in relation to the June 2020 Labour Market report prior to publication.

Quarterly Economic and Statistical Report – Quarter Two

Council noted a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office providing the Quarter 2 2020 Quarterly Economic and Statistical Update in relation to population growth, property sales, employment figures and welfare benefits.

Debt Counselling Service

Council noted a paper submitted by the Isle of Man Office of Fair Trading providing relevant statistical analysis of the debt counselling service provided by the Office of Fair Trading for the quarter from 1 April 2020 to 30 June 2020 inclusive.

Inclusive and Caring Island

We are tackling the inequalities in our Island society

Isle of Man Living Wage Report 2020

Council noted a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office providing information in relation to the Isle of Man Living Wage Report 2020 prior to publication.

Isle of Man Fuel Poverty Report

Council noted a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office providing information in relation to the Isle of Man Fuel Poverty report 2020 prior to publication.

Competition Bill 2020

Council noted a paper submitted by the Isle of Man Office of Fair Trading providing information in relation to progress and drafting of the Competition Bill 2020.