



## Isle of Man Government

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### PUBLICATION

# Extract of Proceedings: Council of Ministers November 2022

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## **Extract of Proceedings in the Council of Ministers during November 2022**

### **Part I Decisions made by Council**

#### **Review of the Pilot Holiday Activity and Food Programme**

Council considered a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office seeking approval on the review of the Holiday Activity and Food Pilot Programme with options for next steps, and **agreed** that the Department of Education, Sport and Culture incorporates a Holiday Activity and Food Scheme as part of the upcoming Youth Strategy.

#### **Plant Varieties and Seeds (Isle of Man) Order 2022**

Council considered and **agreed** a paper submitted by the Department of Food and Agriculture seeking approval for the Plant Varieties and Seeds (Isle of Man) (Amendment) Order 2022 to be submitted to the UK Privy Council to make and laid before Tynwald after it has been made.

#### **Regency Act 1937**

Council considered a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office seeking direction on the UK Government's plans to amend the Regency Act 1937 to increase the number of Counsellors of State able to act on behalf of the Sovereign as required.

After consideration, Council **agreed** that it is content for the amendments to the Regency Act 1937 to extend directly to the Isle of Man via necessary implication as recommended by HM Attorney General, and that there is no need for the Island to legislate for this matter.

#### **Domestic Abuse Act 2020**

Council considered and **agreed** a paper submitted by the Department of Home Affairs seeking approval to move and/or lay before the Domestic Abuse (Travel Notification Requirements) Regulations 2022; Domestic Abuse (Travel Notification) (Manner of Notification) Regulations 2022; and Domestic Abuse Protection Notices and Orders Statutory Guidance 2022 at the December sitting of Tynwald.

#### **Beneficial Ownership (Amendment) Bill 2022**

Council considered and **agreed** a paper submitted by the Treasury seeking approval to issue the Beneficial Ownership (Amendment) Bill 2022 for public consultation over a period of six weeks, commencing as soon as practicable.

#### **Public Sector Payments Bill 2022 – Policy Consultation**

Council considered and **agreed** a paper submitted by the Treasury seeking approval to undertake policy consultation on the proposed Public Sector Payments Bill 2022.

### **Memorandum of Understanding**

Council considered and **agreed** a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office seeking approval to remove the need for annual report between Manx Utilities Authority (MUA) and the Council of Ministers in respect of the employment of its staff.

### **Island Infrastructure Scheme**

Council considered and **agreed** a paper submitted by the Department for Enterprise seeking approval for the creation of the Island Infrastructure Scheme 2022, including fund allocation, and for such a scheme to be brought to Tynwald in December 2022 for approval.

### **Public Appointments – Health Service Independent Review Body**

Council considered and **agreed** a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office seeking approval to extend the term of Mr Jeremy Theobald's appointment at the Health Service Independent Review Body to 1 April 2023. This is to facilitate the closing of cases as the new Health and Social Care Ombudsman comes into operation.

### **Payment of Members' Expenses (Designation of Consultative Body) Order 2022**

Council considered and **agreed** a paper submitted by the Treasury seeking approval to invite the Governor in Council to designate the Tynwald Management Committee as the consultative body for the purpose of section 6(3) of the Payment of Members' Expenses Act 1989 and for the Order to be added to the list of Government Business for the December Tynwald sitting.

### **Energy Efficiency Scheme 2022**

Council considered a paper submitted by the Department for Environment, Food and Agriculture seeking direction for the Energy Efficiency Scheme 2022. After consideration, Council **approved** the policy direction of the Scheme as outlined and requested that a revised iteration return to Council the following week.

### **Merchant Shipping (Manning and STCW) (Amendment) Regulations 2022**

Council considered and **agreed** a paper submitted by the Department for Enterprise seeking approval for the Merchant Shipping (Manning and STCW)(Amendment) Regulations 2022 to be laid before the December sitting of Tynwald.

### **Planning Committee Recruitment**

Council considered a paper submitted by the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture seeking approval of the recommendations made in respect of the appointment of two lay Members of the Planning Committee.

After consideration Council **agreed** to appoint the two recommended candidates, Mr Sam Skelton, and Ms Adele Betteridge, with the former's appointment commencing on 1 December 2022 and the latter's on 12 December subject to her either not being elected as a Commissioner or choosing not to take that role; in the event that Ms Betteridge is not available to take up the Planning Committee role, then to appoint a reserve candidate, to commence as soon as is practical thereafter.

### **Isle of Man Homes for Ukraine Scheme Next Steps**

Council considered a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office seeking direction on the next steps for the Isle of Man Homes for Ukraine Scheme and the Ukraine Support Team. The Minister, CO advised Council that the UK has decided to close the Ukraine Family Scheme.

After consideration, Council **agreed** the next phase of the response to Isle of Man Homes for Ukraine Scheme, as outlined in section 3; that Ministers approve (subject to Treasury concurrence) the increase in host payments for those sponsoring for a second period of six months; and that these changes be announced on 01 December 2022.

### **Social Security Contributions and Benefits Acts 1992**

Council considered and **agreed** a paper submitted by the Treasury seeking approval for to move the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 (Application) (Amendment) (No. 6) Order 2022 at the December sitting of Tynwald. Subject to Council's consent, the Minister for the Treasury will seek the permission of the President of Tynwald to have this item fast-tracked.

### **Animal Welfare Bill 2022 (Amendment)**

Council considered and **agreed** a paper submitted by the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture seeking approval of two amendments to the Animal Welfare Bill 2022.

### **Russia Sanctions Regulations 2022**

Council considered and **agreed** a paper submitted by the Treasury seeking approval for the Russia Sanctions (Application) (No. 13) Regulations 2022 to be made and moved for approval at the January sitting of Tynwald.

### **Appointment of Information Commissioner**

Council considered and **agreed** a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office seeking approval for the re-appointment of Mr Iain McDonald for a term of five years ending 10 January 2028, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2015, subject to the approval of Tynwald; and that a motion for the appointment of Mr Iain McDonald be added to the list of Government Business for the December sitting of Tynwald.

### **Energy Efficiency Scheme 2022**

Council considered and **agreed** a paper submitted by the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture seeking approval to make the Energy Efficiency Scheme 2022 and move it for approval at the December 2022 sitting of Tynwald, subject to Climate Change Transformation Board approval.

### **Advocate Admission Regulations 2022**

Council considered and **agreed** a paper submitted by the Isle of Man Courts and Tribunals (General Registry) seeking approval for the Advocates Admissions Regulations 2022 to be made and laid before the December sitting of Tynwald.

## **Part II**

### **Council noted the following Matters**

#### **Briefing Paper – VAT Treatment Corporate Services Providers (CSPs)**

Council **noted** a paper submitted by the Treasury providing information in relation to the decision to write to Corporate Service Providers (CSPs) to clarify the VAT treatment of certain CSP transactions.

#### **Cost of Living Programme Update**

Council **noted** a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office providing an update on progress across the six work streams in response to the cost of living threats posed by the ongoing inflationary cycle.

#### **Manx Gas Commercial Update**

Council **noted** a paper submitted by the Communications and Utilities Regulatory Authority (CURA) providing a high-level update on the investigation currently being conducted into commercial gas tariffs on the Island.

#### **Government Estate Warm Spaces**

Council **noted** a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office providing information in relation to the Government Warm Spaces initiative.

#### **IOM-UK Fisheries Agreement**

Council **noted** a paper submitted by the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture providing information in relation to their notification to the UK Government that it will withdraw from the Fisheries Management Agreement 2012 with effect from 23 November 2023.

#### **Debt Counselling Service**

Council **noted** a paper submitted by the Office of Fair Trading providing information in relation to a relevant statistical analysis of the Debt Counselling Service for the quarter from 1 July 2022 to 30 September 2022 inclusive.

#### **Letter of Comfort – Animal Disease Outbreak**

Council **noted** a paper submitted by the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture providing information in relation to a letter of comfort to the Animal and Plant Health Agency from DEFRA regarding the MOU for the provision of support in the event of an outbreak of an exotic notifiable disease affecting animals.

#### **Update on the National Broadband Plan**

Council **noted** a paper submitted by the Department for Enterprise providing information in relation to the progress of the National Broadband Plan.

#### **Quarterly Statistical Report (Q3)**

Council **noted** a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office providing information in relation to the Quarterly Statistical Report prior to publication.

#### **Isle of Man Labour Market Report – October 2022**

Council **noted** a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office providing information in relation to the Isle of Man Labour Market Report – October 2022 prior to release on 14 November 2022.

### **Isle of Man Inflation Report – October 2022**

Council **noted** a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office providing information in relation to the Isle of Man Inflation Report – October 2022 prior to release on 14 November 2022. The Minister, Treasury noted that inflation should start to plateau in the coming months.

### **Winter Surveillance**

Council **noted** a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office providing information in relation to the current approach to Winter Surveillance (of Covid-19).

### **Management Accounts – September 2022**

Council **noted** a paper submitted by the Treasury providing information in relation to the Government's financial position to the end of September 2022 along with a forecast to the end of March 2023.

### **National Income Report 2020-2021**

Council **noted** a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office providing information in relation to the findings of the National Income Report, prior to publication on Thursday 1 December 2022.

### **A Great Place to Work**

Council **noted** a paper submitted by the Cabinet Office providing information in relation to the progress of the Great Place to Work initiative.

### **Public Sector Rent Setting**

Council **noted** a paper submitted by the Department of Infrastructure providing information in relation to a Ministerial decision to increase the public sector rent levy by 5% for the year 2023-24.

**Part III**  
**Council determined the following Planning Applications**

Council was not required to determine any planning applications in November 2022.

Applications are referred to the Council of Ministers on a number of specific grounds which are set out in the Town and Country Planning Act 1999. These relate broadly to land use zoning, the size of the proposed development and environmental matters, and are explained more fully on the Planning and Building Control pages of the Government website. The Decision Notice for applications and the Inspector's Report are available online at <https://www.gov.im/onlineservices>.