

Town Hall, Parliament Square, Ramsey, Isle of Man.

www.ramsey.gov.im

11th January, 2019.

Sir/Madam,

The monthly **Public Meeting** of the Ramsey Town Commissioners will be held in the Boardroom of the Town Hall, Parliament Square, Ramsey, on Wednesday evening next, 16th January, 2019, at 7.00 p.m.

BUSINESS:

- **1. Apologies for Absence:** Mr. G. Monk. Canon Greenwood has been granted Leave of Absence.
- 2. Minutes for Adoption:

pages: 1 - 9

page: 10

- Minutes of Board Meeting held on 19th December, 2018.
 Minutes of Special Board meeting held on 9th January, 2019. (To be tabled)
 Minutes of Special Board Meeting held on 14th January, 2019. (To be tabled)
- 3. Matters arising not included within the Agenda.
- 4. Chairman's Report:
 - Christmas in Ramsey
 - Meet and Greet
 - RNLI Chilly Dip
 - Civic Service Invitation Malew
- 5. Finance and General Purposes:

pages: 11 - 23

- o Town Clerk's Report:
 - Civil Registry
 - Consultation Sexual Offences and Obscene Publications Bill 2018
- o Finance Officer's General Report:
 - Accounts
 - Summary of Revenue Income and Expenditure

6. Works and Development:

pages: 24 - 27

- o Chief Technical Officer's Reports:
 - Planning Applications
 - Appendix
 - Disposal of Clinical Waste

7. Housing and Property:

pages: 28 - 41

- o Housing and Property Manager's Reports:
 - Auldyn Meadows Additional Properties Offer
 - Periodic Rental Policy Consultation

8. Parks and Leisure:

pages: 42 - 43

- o Town Clerk's Report:
 - Council of Ministers Libraries Working Party

9. Any other Business:

page: 44

(by permission of Chairman)

• Representatives Report(s)

Town Clerk & Chief Executive.

FROLITERO

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS

[PUBLIC]

The Monthly Board Meeting of the Ramsey Town Commissioners was held in Town Hall, Parliament Square, Ramsey, on Wednesday, 19th December, 2018, at 7.00 p.m.

Present:

Mr. A. G. Cowie, Mesdames. M. B. Quayle and J. Wedgwood, Messrs' W. L. Hankin, N. P. Howard, J. McGuinness, G. Monk, A. J. Oldham,

L. Parker, F. B. R. Williams and W. G. Young.

Apologies:

Canon Greenwood has been granted leave of absence.

The Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk, Chief Technical Officer, Finance Officer, Housing and Property Manager, Technical Services Manager, and Minute Clerk were in attendance.

(2018/19:353) Minutes:

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Board Meeting held on 21st November, 2018, and the Special Board Meeting held on 10th December, 2018, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

(2018/19:354) Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising that were not included elsewhere within the meeting's agenda.

(2018/19:355) Chairman's Report:

Resolved: To note the Chairman's report dated 14th December, 2018. The Chairman reiterated his goods wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Finance and General Purposes:

(2018/19:356) Town Clerk's Report – Easement Coronation Park:

Members considered the Town Clerk's report dated 13th December, 2018, concerning the defective manhole in the roadway at Queen's Pier Road and the proposal to make a direct connection to a manhole situate with the Coronation Park, subject to the grant of an Easement to cross land in the Commission's ownership.

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Cowie and agreed an Easement be granted at nomination consideration subject to approval of the Department of Infrastructure under S25 of the Local Government Act 1985.

(2018/19:357) Town Clerk's Report – Ramsey Town Commissioners' Bye-Elections:

Members considered the Town Clerk's Report dated 3rd December, 2018, in response to the Board's directive to draw-up a strategy to improve the bye-election process. Members welcomed the options presented by the Town Clerk to increase awareness in the bye-election process and the "action calendar". Mr. Parker asked if the calendar might be extended? Members were reminded that revised legislation is being progressed by Government. Members also felt that greater "induction" would be beneficial along with wider publication of bye-elections in respective wards.

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. Cowie, seconded by Mr. McGuinness that a policy be drafted incorporating the Town Clerk's options.

(2018/19:358) Finance Officer's Report:

Resolved: To note and approve the Finance Officer's General Report dated 12th December, 2018, subject to the following:

Accounts - a query with regard to services supplied by a particular company was answered to members' satisfaction.

Members were reminded that budget process discussions are on-going.

Works and Development:

(2018/19:359) Chief Technical Officer's Report - Planning Applications:

Resolved: That Chief Technical Officer's Report dated 12th December, 2018, detailing planning applications received from the Department of the Environment, Food and Agriculture, under the planning consultation procedures, be noted and approved, subject to the following:-

REF NO:

3618

AMENDED PLANS

P.A. NO.:

18/01106/B

APPLICANT:

Hartford Homes Limited

PROPOSED:

Erection of a detached dwelling with associated parking

NOTES:

P.A. in Detail

SITE:

Land to the west of 17, Royal Park, Ramsey.

A letter of mitigation to the objections raised by the Commission had been received and after discussion it was proposed by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Oldham and agreed by 6 votes to 5 to affirm the Commission's objection as no changes had been made to the plans. Those members voting in favour were Messrs' Williams, Oldham, Parker, Monk, Hankin and Howard.

(2018/19:359) Chief Technical Officer's Report - Planning Applications Cont:

REF NO:

3628

P.A. NO.:

18/01234/B

APPLICANT:

David Hathersich-Jones

PROPOSED:

Variation of condition 1 of PA 16/00576/A for the approval in

principle for the erection of a four storey apartment block, to extend

the period of approval for a further 2 years

NOTES:

P.A. in Detail

SITE:

21 - 22, West Quay, Ramsey.

It was proposed by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. McGuinness and agreed that no objection be made to the application but an observation be made that the Commissioners feel that no further extensions of planning permission should be granted.

REF NO:

3629

P.A. NO.:

18/01255/B

APPLICANT:

Dandara Homes Limited

PROPOSED:

Erection of 34 dwellings with associated highway and drainage

works

NOTES:

P.A. in Detail

SITE:

Land adjoining Residential Development, Auldyn Meadow

Drive, Ramsey.

An email containing various points of objection was circulated. Mr. Williams proposed that an observation be submitted that no further development (including that within this application) be approved until completion of the second carriageway to Gardeners Lane in the area of the former Railway Line. The Town Clerk advised members of his understanding that the Department of Infrastructure is proposing to introduce dual carriageway traffic controls in this area once the second lane is completed, and Mr. Williams extended his proposal to include that the Department of Infrastructure be requested to actively manage control of traffic at all junctions with Gardeners Lane.

The proposal was seconded by Mr. Oldham and agreed without division.

REF NO:

3630

P.A. NO.:

18/01265/B

APPLICANT:

Elliot Construction Limited

PROPOSED:

Conversion of existing building to form 6 self contained apartments

(comprising amendments to 06/01427/B)

NOTES:

P.A. in Detail

SITE:

Glenville, Ballure Road, Ramsey.

Discussion ensued with reference being drawn to the Strategic Plan 2016 with regard to parking provision. It was proposed by Mr. Cowie, seconded by Mr. Williams that an objection be submitted. The proposal failed by 4 votes to 7, Messrs' Cowie, Hankin, Oldham and Williams voting with the proposal.

(2018/19:360) Chief Technical Officer's Report - Emergency Road Closure West Ouay:

Resolved: To note the Chief Technical Officer's report dated 12th December, 2018, advising of actions taken in securing an emergency road closure on West Quay on 28th November.

It was agreed to advise the contractor that the Commissioners believe that if their preferred style of fencing had been used the problem would not have arisen.

It was further resolved, following a proposal by Mr. Cowie, seconded by Mr. Williams and agreed that an attempt be made to recover costs incurred by the Commission in providing the road closure.

(2018/19:361) Technical Assistant's Report - Recycling of Christmas Trees:

Resolved: To note the Technical Assistant's report dated 12th December, 2018, advising of facilities that will be available to enable real Christmas trees to be recycled between 2nd and 11th January, 2019.

(2018/19:362) Chief Technical Officer's Report - Refuse Collection Alterations Christmas and New Year 2018/19:

Resolved: To note the Technical Assistant's report dated 12th December, 2018, advising of changes to refuse collections during Christmas and New Year 2018/19. The report also details the opening hours of the Civic Amenity Site.

It was proposed by Mr. McGuinness seconded by Mr. Oldham and agreed that the Commission record its appreciation to its outdoor staff for all the additional duties undertaken at this time of year.

Housing and Property:

(2018/19:363) Housing and Property Manager's Report - Auldyn Meadows Additional Properties Offer:

Members received the Housing and Property Manager's report dated 12th December, 2018, advising of the availability of properties under the Section 13 Affordable Housing arrangement, should the Commissioners wish to purchase them. Discussion ensued with regard to the numbers on the Housing Waiting Lists for the size of properties being offered.

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. Cowie, seconded by Mr. McGuinness and agreed that the matter be deferred pending submission of an analytical / demographic report of Housing Waiting List applicants from the Housing and Property Manager.

Parks and Leisure:

(2018/19:364) Deputy Town Clerk's Report - Christmas Events:

Resolved: To note the Deputy Town Clerk's report dated 12th December, 2018, advising of events taking place during the festive period.

Mr. Oldham advised of a current exhibition taking place at the Courthouse with art work by Mr. Michael Starkey and photographs by Mr. Les Clarke.

Any Other Business:

(2018/19:365) Representative Report:

Resolved: To note the representative reports submitted by Mr. McGuinness - Northern Local Authorities Swimming Pool Board and Mr. Cowie - Isle of Man Municipal Association.

A report by Mrs. Quayle, comprising minutes of a meeting held on 2nd October, 2018, was circulated.

(2018/19:366) Sundry Matters:

The following sundry matters were queried / advised:

- Mr. Hankin queried speed of traffic and lack of illumination Waterloo Road, Albert Road areas the Town Clerk advised that officers of the Department are proposing to install speed / traffic monitoring equipment early in the New Year.
- Mrs. Wedgwood queried, on behalf of a third party, access to St. Paul's Square by emergency vehicles because of traffic control barriers she was advised that emergency services would take whatever direct action was felt necessary in times of emergency, which may include breaking through the barrier.
- Mr. Oldham advised that he has been appointed Parade Marshal and Poppy Liaison Officer, in his capacity as a member of Ramsey Branch Royal British Legion.

The Chairman thanked the public and media representatives for attending and closed the public session at 8.20 p.m.

The following items were considered in private the detail of which, having regard to data protection, matters affecting persons who cannot be named, etc., is not as extensive as that contained in minutes of matters discussed in public.

(2018/19:367) Minutes:

Resolved: To note that no matters from the Board meeting held on 19th November, or 10th December, 2018, had been recorded in private.

Matters for Information:

(2018/19:368) Housing Committee:

Resolved: To note and approve the minutes of the Housing Committee held on 4th December, 2018, subject to the following:-

Clause 58e) members were advised that no points had been deducted in view of the circumstances of this refusal of tenancy offer.

Clause 62a) the Licence to Occupy has been renewed

Clause 62b) a further Court hearing will be held on 1st February in view of outstanding matters.

Clause 63d) this application was discussed and the circumstances noted.

(2018/19:369) On-Going Matters "Action Tracker":

Resolved: To note the "Action Tracker" to 14th December, 2018, included within the agenda and the following comments made thereon, and accepting that some matters may be referred to in other sections of these minutes:-

- *Decorative and Festive Lighting* the Chief Technical Officer informed members that advice is being sought from Douglas Corporation and Mr. Parker advised that he has spoken to a local company who will make contact with the Technical Services Manager in January.
- Amenity Byelaws Mr. Hankin queried if domestic bins left on pavements was subject to byelaws and was advised that the matter fell under the Public Health Act but that no regulations existed at present. The Town Clerk noted that action may be possible under the Highways Act, and undertook to enquire further in this regard.
- *War Memorial* a specification will be prepared for consideration at the January, 2019, Board Meeting;
- Former Mart Site a further revised agreement is being prepared for signature;
- *Public Open Space former Grand Island Site* the agreement has been "signed-off" by the Attorney General. A reminder was given about the covenant contained within the agreement concerning building and agreement to sign the agreement on behalf of the Commission given;
- *Ramsey Courthouse* Proposed by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Williams and agreed that quotations be obtained for and a survey progressed. The proposal was agreed without division. Mr. Oldham did not vote owing to a possible interest.

Finance and General Purposes:

(2018/19:370) Finance Officer's General Report:

Resolved: To note and approve the Finance Officer's Report dated 12th December, 2018, subject to the following:

Rent Arrears: It was noted that the following actions are on-going with certain tenants listed on the Rent Arrears as follows:

- 7 letters have been addressed to this tenant;
- 12 staff are liaising with the tenant in an attempt to reduce arrears
- 15 this tenant is coming in to discuss arrears

Aged Debtors: queries raised with regard to particular debtors were answered to members' satisfaction.

Pay Award: Members were advised that allowances for any pay award and increases in National Insurance and pension costs will be factored into the budget figures for 2019/20.

Works and Development:

(2018/19:371) Town Clerk's Report – Bleak House:

Members considered the Deputy Town Clerk's report dated 13th December, 2018, advising on the current state of negotiations between parties with regard to Bleak House and in his supplemental report dated 19th December, 2018, a reminder of the legislation and Commissioners' current position with regard to the property.

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Hankin and agreed that legal advice be sought in this matter having regard to the current proposals being presented.

Mr. Young proposed that the Commission write-off monies due to it following works undertaken to make the property safe did not receive a seconder.

It was further resolved to advise the party making enquiry about the acquisition of land, adjacent to Bleak House, in the Commission's ownership, that the Commissioners are not prepared to consider this matter whilst the question of debt related to the property exists.

(2018/19:372) Town Clerk's Report – MER Station:

Members considered the Town Clerk's report dated 13th December, 2018, and Draft options provided by the Department of Infrastructure with regard to the MER Station (Ramsey Transport Hub). Discussion ensued. Mr. Cowie explained that the ideas presented were still at a conceptual stage.

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Oldham, that the Department be informed that the Commissioners' preference is for option 4e, presented within their draft options document. The proposal was carried by 7 votes to 4 with Mrs. Wedgwood and Messrs' Cowie, Parker and Young voting against.

It was further resolved to confirm that the Commission is not in favour of extending tram lines into Peel Street as the area had recently been regenerated, the loss of parking and the disruption to businesses. Members also confirmed that they would prefer not to lose any car parking facilities in the Town and would wish to increase these if possible.

(2018/19:373) Deputy Town Clerk's Report – Parking Strategy:

Members considered the Deputy Town Clerk's report dated 13th December, 2018, advising of the initiative of the Department of Enterprise, through Business Isle of Man, to prepare a brief and engage a consultancy to develop a "Parking on the Island" strategy.

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Oldham and agreed that those parameters suggested by the Deputy Town Clerk be presented to consultants and Business Isle of Man for further discussion.

(2018/19:374) Chief Technical Officer's Report – Wall at Water Street Car Park:

Members considered the Deputy Town Clerk's report dated 13th December, 2018, and the Technical Services Manager's supplemental report thereto dated 18th December, to which was appended the report of MacOwan Collett Consulting Engineers.

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Mr. Cowie, seconded by Mr. Parker, and agreed, the content of the report be brought to the attention of Mr. Young.

Housing and Property:

(2018/19:375) Housing and Property Manager's Report - 47 - 59, Upper Queen's Pier Road Refurbishment:

Resolved: To note and approved the Housing and Property Manager's report dated 12th December, 2018, advising of the pre-tender estimate and professional fees in respect of the proposed refurbishment of seven properties at Upper Queen's Pier Road.

It was further resolved, that following a proposal by Mrs. Wedgwood, seconded by Mr. William s and agreed by 10 votes to 1, Mr. Young voting against, that the project proceed to tender Action, about which a Tender Report I3 will be presented.

(2018/19:376) Housing and Property Manager's Report - Properties at Bircham Avenue:

Resolved: To note the Housing and Property Manager's report dated 12th December, 2018, advising of the amounts spent on properties at Bircham Avenue since 2015 and detailing the general dynamic of occupancy of such properties.

It was noted that further report will be presented to the Board in 2019.

It was proposed by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Williams and agreed that all further business be deferred to a special meeting of the Board to be held on 9th January, 2019, when consideration will be given to the budget for 2019/20.

The meeting closed at 10.00 p.m. giving a time of 3.00 hours for payment of attendance allowances.

Chairman.

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS CHAIRMAN'S REPORT JANUARY, 2019.

Fellow Members,

Christmas in Ramsey

In wishing everyone a Happy New Year I would also like to congratulate and thank the many people in the community who organised festive entertainment or events during the Christmas and New Year period and who continue to contribute to the community of Ramsey in so many ways.

Meet and Greet:

The opportunity is taken to give a reminder about the Meet and Greet to be held at Ramsey Courthouse on 19th January, 2019, between 10.00 a.m. and 12 noon.

It is hoped that members of the public will drop in to discuss with members of the Commission any matters of interest or concern they may have in relation the town and the services provided by the local authority.

RNLI Chilly Dip

A hardy 166 souls took part in the 2019 New Year's Day Chilly Dip organised by the Ramsey RNLI, including Town Commissioner Nigel Howard and the Town Clerk who was being sponsored to raise funds for this year's causes the Ramsey RNLI and Bunscoill Rhumsaa.

Civic Service Invitation Malew

Mrs. Barbara Brereton, Chairman and the Members of Malew Parish Commissioners have extended an invitation to the Annual Civic Service to be held on Sunday, 3rd March, 2019, at the Abbey Church, Ballasalla at 3.00 p.m. and after which light refreshments will be served in the Ballasalla Village Hall.

If members could advise Mrs. Chrystal if they wish to attend please, as a response to the invitation is requested by 11th February.

11th January, 2019.

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS TOWN CLERK'S REPORT CIVIL REGISTRY JANUARY 2019 – PUBLIC

Mr. Chairman and Members,

The following table summarises registrations undertaken and ceremonies which have been conducted at Ramsey Town Hall Civil Registry during the 2018 calendar year.

Births
Deaths
Resident
Non Resident
Marriages
Civil Partner
Still Births

Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	0ct	Nov	Dec	Total
10	6	12	3	8	3	7	10	6	11	8	3	87
27	16	20	19	13	10	8	9	11	10	14	9	166
27	16	19	19	13	10	8	9	11	10	14	9	165
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2	0	1	1	4	3	2	5	3	1	1	1	24
0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

The figures are comparable with overall registrations over the similar period in the previous year shown below:-

Births
Deaths
Resident
Non Resident
Marriages
Civil Partner
Still Births

Ja	ın	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov		Total
1	3	12	15	3	6	10	10	15	2	7	13	10	116
1	4	18	12	12	13	17	13	10	5	14	10	17	155
1	4	18	12	12	13	17	13	9	5	14	10	17	154
)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
)	1	1	2	2	5	4	5	5	0	0	2	27
C)	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
C)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

The service continues to be very well received and appreciated by those who use it many of whom comment favourably on the ability to undertake civil registrations in Ramsey.

Recommendation: to be noted.

T. P. Whiteway

Town Clerk and Chief Executive.

4th January 2019.

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS TOWN CLERK'S REPORT CONSULTATION SEXUAL OFFENCES AND OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS BILL 2018 JANUARY 2019- PUBLIC

Mr. Chairman and Members,

The Department of Home Affairs (DHA) is consulting on a draft Sexual Offences and Obscene Publications Bill 2018. The consultation was circulated to Members in advance of the agenda being issued and is also enclosed herewith.

The purpose of the Bill is to modernise and consolidate the legislation and address important matters such as:

- updating the definition of consent to ensure that it provides appropriate and clear protection for victims
- reviewing sentences for offences
- addressing image-based abuse
- modernising the legislation relating to pornography and obscene publications and
- the pardoning and removal of criminal records relating to historic consensual homosexual offences

The consultation can be responded to individually using the Gov't consultation hub https://consult.gov.im/home-affairs/sexual-offences-and-obscene-publications-bill/

The consultation closes on 4th February 2019 and seeks responses to the following questions:-

A. CONSENT

Q1. At what age do you feel a person can consent to sex?

- 16 years of age
- 17 years of age
- 18 years of age
- Other please specify

Q2. Do you agree that consent should be shown to be sought and explicit rather than implied?

- Yes
- *No*

B. ABUSE OF POSITIONS OF TRUST:

Q1. Are there other persons, bodies or jobs you wish to see included in the list of those in 'Positions of Trust'?

- Yes
- *No*

(If yes, please say who or what)

C. POWERS OF THE POLICE

- Q1. Do you believe the powers given to the police to enable them to search property and seize images and other evidence are proportionate?
- Yes
- *No*
- Q2. Do you feel that future legislation might be needed to enable the police to gain access to computer files which may be password protected, or encrypted?
- Yes
- *No*

D. NOTIFICATION ORDERS AND SEXUAL OFFENCES ORDERS

- Q1. Do you agree that the notification requirements should remain in the Bill and continue to be imposed on convicted sex offenders?
- Yes
- *No*
- Q2. Do you agree with the ability of the court to make Sexual Harm Prevention Orders?
- Yes
- *No*
- Q3. Do you agree with the ability of the Chief Constable to apply to a court for a Sexual Risk Order where he has reasonable cause to believe it is necessary to protect the public?
- \bullet Yes
- *No*
- Q4. Do you agree with the powers to restrict travel by sexual offenders?
- Yes
- *No*

E. PROPOSED PARDON FOR NOW REPEALED HISTORICAL HOMOSEXUAL OFFENCES

- Q1. Which of the following are preferred methods of proposing pardon and repeal for criminal convictions against homosexual offences in the Isle of Man?
 - Option 1: That each individual or their family would apply and have their case looked at in isolation with a pardon being granted if it met the criteria and the past conviction or caution being disregarded and removed from all records. This is the system currently used in England and Wales.
 - Option 2: That all persons convicted of those offences are pardoned automatically by virtue of the Act. It is then up to the person or the person's relatives to formally apply to have the past conviction or caution disregarded and removed from all records. This is the situation being developed in Scotland.

F. WITNESS AND VICTIM ANONYMITY

- Q1. Do you agree that the Court should be able to keep the name of any victims and witnesses anonymous in cases related to sexual offences and that any admissible evidence should be justified?
- Yes
- *No*
- Q2. Currently the penalty for disclosing details of a witness or victim without the permission of the court is by fine only. Do you agree the court should have the power to impose a custodial sentence?
- Yes
- *No*
- Q3. If yes, do you think the maximum sentence of 12 months proposed in the Bill is appropriate?
- Yes
- *No*

If no, what length do you believe would be appropriate?

- Q4. Do you think the identity of the defendant could, in certain circumstances, be anonymised and protected from publication?
- Yes
- *No*
- Q5. If you do agree, in what circumstances does the identity of a defendant need to be anonymised and protected against identifiable publication? (e.g. Only until charged? Or until convicted? In order to protect the identity of the victim or because the defendant is vulnerable?)

G. OBSCENE IMAGES AND PUBLICATIONS

Q1. Do you agree that there should be specific provision to cover extreme pornography and that this should be treated differently in terms of sentencing?

- Yes
- *No*

If no, why not?

Q2. Do you agree with the definition of pornography and extreme pornography used in the Bill?

- Yes
- *No*

Q3. Do you think there are enough protections to allow for art and free expression which may involve nudity or images seen by some to be sexual in nature?

- Yes
- *No*

H. IMAGE-BASED SEXUAL ABUSE

Q1. Would you agree that 'upskirting' is a form of image-based sexual abuse?

- Yes
- *No*

Q2. Should 'upskirting' be punishable under sentencing for "Recording an intimate image without consent" (and therefore be subject to the same penalties) or should it be treated as a separate and specific offence?

- Should be treated as an offence punishable under "intimate image recorded without consent".
- Should be treated as a separate offence.

Q3. Do you agree that 'image-based sexual abuse' should be made a criminal offence?

- \bullet Yes
- *No*

I. SENTENCING

Q1. Do you consider the levels of the maximum sentences a court may impose, as set out within the Bill, to be reasonable in all the circumstances?

- Yes
- *No*

Q2. The Bill currently empowers the sentencing in child image cases to be assisted by UK sentencing guidelines. Do you think provision for sentencing guidelines should be extended to all the offences within this Bill?

- Yes
- *No*

J. FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION

Q1. Do you feel that updating the current law regarding FGM along the lines suggested in A to E should be included in the Sexual Offences and Obscene Publications Bill?

- Yes
- *No*

If no, would support the changes being made through a separate amendment Bill?

The Board is invited to determine whether a corporate response should be provided or that Member should may individual submissions if they so wish.

Recommendation: for discussion.

T. P. WhitewayTown Clerk and Chief Executive

9th January 2019.

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS FINANCE OFFICER'S GENERAL REPORT JANUARY 2019 - PUBLIC

Mr. Chairman and Members,

The following documents are appended for review and/or information:

- 1. A summary of accounts paid and suppliers used in December 2018 Appendix 1.
- 2. Tabulated and graphical summaries of the Income and Expenditure for the period to 31st December 2018 Appendix 2.

Accounts

Accounts totalling £1,077,463.28 were paid through the General Revenue Account and accounts totalling £16,216.41 were paid through the Northern Civic Amenity Site Account in December 2018, details of which are attached at Appendix 1.

Recommendation: To be noted.

Summary of Revenue Income and Expenditure

A summary of the 2018-19 Income and Expenditure for the period to 31st December together with associated graphical depiction is attached at Appendix 2. It should be noted that the graphical disclosures are both for month-by-month and cumulative figures from 1st April 2018.

10th December 2019

N.Q. Cannell, FCCA Finance Officer.

Ramsey Town Commissioners

Appe**ndix 1**

Accounts paid to the 31 December 2018

Payee	Description	Amount (incl. VAT)
General Account		£
Banks	Loan repayments - interest	445,225.47
Banks	Loan repayments - capital	382,631.25
Staff	Wages, salaries, ITIP, NI & superannuation	151,004.13
IOM Government	Waste disposal charges	29,714.84
Various	Housing property repairs, maint. & safety checks	12,606.56
Various	Fuel & oil	12,350.20
Manx Utilities	Street lighting	7,662.72
Various	IT costs	6,452.74
Various	Legal & prof. fees - housing	3,859.20
Various	Office expenses - post, printing, stationery etc.	3,472.01
Various	Park materials	3,367.25
Manx Utilities	Electricity	3,302.37
Banks	Bank & debit card charges	2,343.45
Various	Refuse materials & equipment	2,071.10
Various	Staff training	2,034.00
Various	Security, Town Warden etc.	2,004.30
Various	Vehicle maintenance, repairs & licences	1,512.01
Various	Commission property repairs, maint. & safety checks	1,505.54
M. Telecom	Phones	1,414.27
Various	Library books & DVD's	1,226.43
Various	Machinery maintenance	646.06
Various	Media & advertising	370.16
Various	Town events	340.00
Various	Gift vouchers & donations	225.00
Various	Rent refund	122.22
		1,077,463.28
Northern Civic Amenity Si	i <u>te</u>	
IOM Government	Waste disposal charges	10,552.67
Various	Skip haulage	3,660.00
Various	Recycling charges	1,310.02
Various	Site maintenance	498.32
Manx Utilities	Electricity	141.19
Worldpay	Debit card reader charge	41.69
Bank	Charges	12.52
		16,216.41

Ramsey Town Commissioners

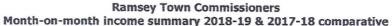
Suppliers utilised during December 2018 Appendix 1						
AB Photography	IOM	Manx Telecom	IOM			
Allutech	IOM	Manx Utilities Authority	IOM			
Appleby	IOM	Marksmann Locksmith	IOM			
Argon IT Services Ltd.	IOM	Marown TV	IOM			
Argon Office Systems Ltd.	IOM	Martin & Watson Ltd.	IOM			
AWF Specialist Systems	UK	Office Equipment Centre	IOM			
Bertram Trading Ltd.	UK	Paul Wheeler Ltd.	MOI			
Brew & Corkill Ltd.	IOM	P & M Window Cleaners Ltd.	IOM			
Bridge Bookshop Ltd.	IOM	Phoenix Windows Ltd.	IOM			
Buffalo Bowling Ltd.	IOM	Pro-tec Security	IOM			
CE Richmond Ltd.	IOM	Ramsey Garden Centre	IOM			
Chartered Institute of Housing	UK	Ramsey Shipping Services Ltd.	IOM			
Dave O'Sullivan Ltd.	MOI	Ramsey Skips	IOM			
David Perry Electrical Consultants Ltd.	IOM	Royal British Legion	MOI			
Ellan Vannin Fuels Ltd.	IOM	Secure Scaffolding Ltd.	MOI			
Express Fixings Ltd.	IOM	Shakti Man	IOM			
Farmers Combine Ltd.	IOM	St Johns Ambulance	IOM			
G4S Secure Solutions Ltd.	IOM	Suez Recycling	IOM			
Gresswell Ltd.	UK	Supply Safety Company	UK			
Haldane Fisher (IOM) Ltd.	IOM	TLC Business Solutions	MOI			
IOM Government	IOM	Ulverscroft Large Print Books Ltd.	UK			
IOM Newspapers	IOM	Warwick IOM	IOM			
IOM Post Office	IOM	WDS Ltd.	IOM			
Island Drainage & Groundworks Ltd.	IOM	WF Howes Ltd.	UK			
JBA Consulting Ltd.	IOM	WH Looney Ltd.	IOM			
Jewson Ltd.	UK	Whittaker Trading Ltd.	IOM			
Macs Builders Ltd.	IOM	Wicksteed Leisure Ltd.	UK			
Mannin Media Group	IOM	Worldpay (UK) Ltd.	UK			
Manx Business Solutions Ltd.	IOM	Wurth Ltd.	IOM			

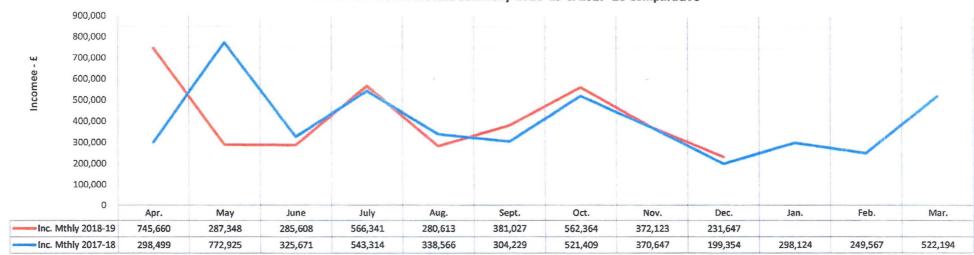
RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS

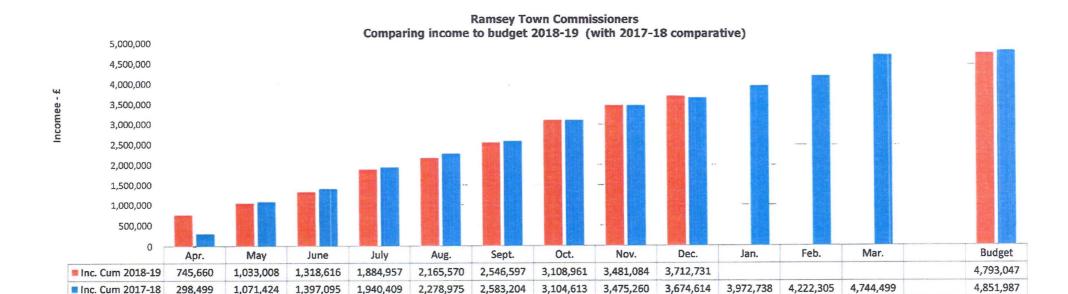
		2018	- 2019 to dat	:e		Est	ima	te for 2018 - 2		
Housing and Property	Expenditure		Income	Net Expend. / (Income)		Expenditure		Income	N	et Expend. / (Income)
Housing Schemes	3,203,259	1	3,304,826	(101,567)		4,083,100	1	4,255,740		(172,64
Cl. Woirrey/ Cl. y C Ghlass	19,122		10,085	9,037		26,830		21,400		5,43
Brookfield Court	9,771		6,332	3,439		13,900	1	13,130		77
Close ny Mooragh	20,405		15,859	4,546		28,500	T	32,100		(3,60
Town Hall	160,919	-	21,017	139,902		223,500		8,750		214,75
Workshops	83,866		3,000	80,866	~~~~	105,800		3,000		102,80
Public Conveniences	33,708		0	33,708		56,200		0		56,20
Courthouse	19,297	†	0	19,297		37,200		0		37,20
Apprentices	0		0	0		0,,200		0		
R.N.D.H.C.	14,908		17,459	(2,551)		17,000		18,700		(1,70
Sub Total	£ 3,565,255	£	3,378,578	£186,677	£	4,592,030	£	4,352,820	£	239,21

		2018	- 2019 to dat	e Net Expend. /			ima'	te for 2018 - 2		et Expend.
Works & Development	Expenditure		Income	(Income)		Expenditure		Income	l in	et Expend. (Income)
Foreshores & Flags	1,445	 	0	(Income) 1,445		5,000	 	0		(<u>Income)</u> 5,00
Car Parks	25,237		15, <i>7</i> 93	9,444		53,550	 	17,245		36,30
Refuse Removal	611,178		92,064	519,114		899,200	┼	146,000		753,20
Sewers & Pumps	78,651	 	78,651	319,114	<u> </u>	104,820		104,820		733,20
					<u> </u>		 			18,05
Prom Shelters, etc Street & Dec Lighting	8,537 98,334	 	0	8,537 98,334	<u> </u>	18,050 104,400		0		104,40
		<u> </u>					ļ	0		
Local Services	44,506		0	44,506		115,500				115,50
Govt Department Agencies	0		0	0		55	ļ	55		45.00
Private Property Repairs	1,044	<u> </u>	0	1,044		15,000		0		15,00
Sub Total	£ 868,932	£	186,508	£682,424	£	1,315,575	£	268,120	£	1,047,45
T		2212							242	······································
			- 2019 to dat	e Net Expend. /			ima	te for 2018 - 2		et Expend.
Parks & Leisure	Expenditure	l	Income	(Income)		Expenditure		Income		(Income)
Advertising & Entertaining	37,441		3,017	34,424		35,600	 	3,700		31,90
Parks, Gardens & Land	220,509		602	219,907		316,150	 	102		316,04
Mansail Lease	6,262		6,005	257		21,800	·	7,580	 	14,22
Sames Concessions	10,906		1,571	9,335	*********	16,300		2,000		14,30
akeside Centre	6,613		8,636	(2,023)		7,250		11,200		(3,95
Parklands Day Nursery	1,716		12,417	(10,701)		2,440	-	16,650		(14,21
Non-Lease Properties	7,953		0	7,953		5,150		10,030		5,15
Swimming Pool	16,390		0	16,390		17,500		0		17,50
Bowling Alley	7,247		11,250	(4,003)		2,000		15,000		(13,00
Public Library	104,398		8,170	96,228		155,400		11,000		144,40
Sub Total		£	51,668	£367,767	£	579,590	£	67,232	£	512,35
		<u> </u>								
		2018 - 2019 to date				Est	imat	te for 2018 - 2		-A.F
inance & General	Expenditure		Income	Net Expend. /		Expenditure		Income	N	et Expend.
Purposes				(Income)		•		······································		(Income)
Administration	39,480		0	39,480		130,250		0		130,25
Office Expenses	647,633		76,918	570,715		897,050	<u> </u>	80,775		816,27
Sundry Expenses	11,951		0	11,951		19,500	<u> </u>	0		19,50
1iscellaneous	34,954		19,059	15,895		50, 4 00		24,100		26,30
own Band	2,000		0	2,000		2,000		0		2,00
'ehicle Replacement	0		0	0		10,000		0		10,00
amsey Town Management	837		0	837		31,500		0		31,50
Sub Total	£ 736,855	£	95,977	£640,878	£	1,140,700	£	104,875	£	1,035,82
	£ 5,590,477		3,712,731	£ 1,877,746	£	7,627,895	Γ,	4,793,047	£	2,834,84

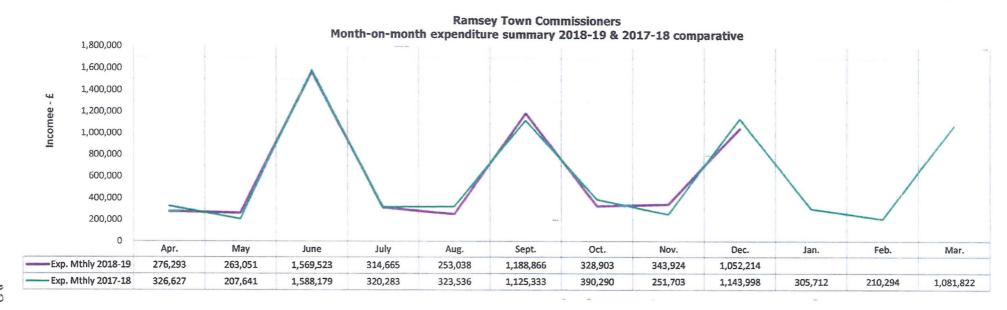
SUMMARY OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE TO 31 DECEMBER 2018

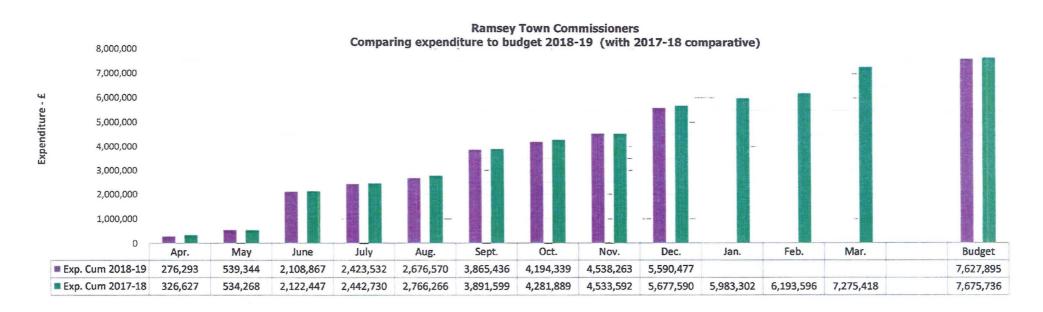




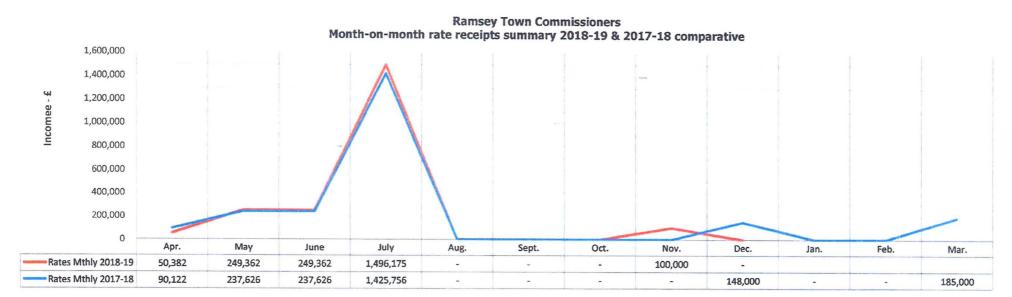


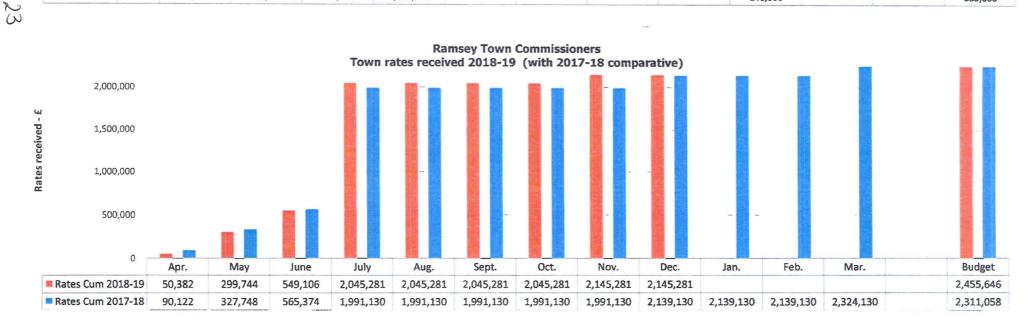
SUMMARY OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE TO 31 DECEMBER 2018





SUMMARY OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE TO 31 DECEMBER 2018





RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS CHIEF TECHNICAL OFFICER'S REPORT PLANNING APPLICATIONS – JANUARY, 2019

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Copies of the following applications have been received from the Department of the Environment, Food and Agriculture, Planning and Building Control Division under the planning consultation procedures. The applications are listed for consideration subject to comments where appended.

REF NO:

3608

AMENDED PLANS

P.A. NO.:

18/00953/B

APPLICANT:

Mr. & Mrs. P. Taylor

PROPOSED:

Erection of two storey extension on side of dwelling

NOTES:

P.A. in Detail

SITE:

14, Royal Park, Ramsey.

REF NO:

3632

P.A. NO.:

18/01292/B

APPLICANT:

Heron & Brearley Limited

PROPOSED:

Installation of replacement upper floor windows to front elevation

NOTES:

P.A. in Detail

SITE:

The Royal George Hotel, 10 - 12, Market Place East, Ramsey

REF NO:

3633

P.A. NO.:

18/01322/C

APPLICANT:

Kelproperties Limited

PROPOSED:

Change of use of first floor office (class 4) to a residential apartment

NOTES:

P.A. - Change of Use

SITE:

Kermode House, 74, Parliament Street, Ramsey

REF NO:

3634

P.A. NO.:

18/01339/B Nick Gallin

APPLICANT: PROPOSED:

Extension to property in order to accommodate new lifeboat

NOTES:

P.A. in Detail

SITE:

RNLI New Norbury Lifeboat House, Queen's Promenade,

Ramsey

REF NO:

3635

P.A. NO.:

18/01344/B

APPLICANT:

Mrs. S. Starkey

PROPOSED:

Replacement of existing conservatory roof with tiled roof

NOTES:

P.A. in Detail

SITE:

67, Claughbane Drive, Ramsey

C.T.O.'s Report - Planning Applications - January, 2019 - Public Continued

REF NO:

3636

P.A. NO.:

19/00003/B

APPLICANT:

Hartford Homes Limited

PROPOSED:

Erection of two detached dwellings with integral garages

NOTES:

P.A. in Detail

SITE:

60 & 61, Royal Park, Ramsey

REF NO:

3637

P.A. NO.:

19/00009/B

APPLICANT:

Mr. I. Piercy

PROPOSED:

Erection of a single dwelling on land adjacent to Rheast Mooar

House

NOTES:

P.A. in Detail

SITE:

Land adjacent to Rheast Mooar House, Andreas Road, Ramsey

P. S. Harrison,

Chief Technical Officer.

10th January, 2019.

R.T.C	R.T.C CHIEF TECHNICAL OFFICER'S REPORT - APPENDIX I - SUMMARY OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS – JANUARY, 2019								
P.A. No.	Applicant	Proposed	Site	R.T.C.	D.o.I. Correspondence	Appendix			
				Recommendation		II			
18/00793/C	Department of	Additional use of part of	Tram Station,	Meeting held: 15/08/18	09/01/19 Application WITHDRAWN				
	Infrastructure	station for parking of up	Albert Street	No Comment					
R.T.C. 3599		to 10 minibuses							
		(retrospective)							

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS CHIEF TECHNICAL OFFICER'S REPORT DISPOSAL OF CLINICAL AND OFFENSIVE WASTE JANUARY, 2019 – PUBLIC

Mr. Chairman and Members,

This Authority has been contacted by the Department of Infrastructure together with all other Energy from Waste Facility Customers in respect of the delivering of clinical and offensive waste to the Energy from Waste Facility.

This matter has been highlighted by the company which operates the Energy from Waste Facility for the Department of Infrastructure SUEZ IOM in respect of the use of yellow coloured bin bags for disposal of waste.

On a number of occasions, yellow plastic bin bags have been found within the Energy from Waste Reception Hall waste bunker. Yellow bin bags are identified as containing infectious clinical waste which must be disposed of by specialist high temperatures incineration. The Energy from Waste Facility achieves this requirement via the Secondary Waste Incinerator which is not part of the main Reception Hall waste bunker. The waste licence for the EfW facility does not permit the processing of infectious clinical waste within the main Reception Hall bunker and primary incinerator and therefore any clinical waste found within the reception Hall Bunker will result in a charge to the Department of Infrastructure who will in turn seek to recover costs from the company/Local Authority responsible for delivering the yellow bagged waste which will be covered by CCTV recording.

Healthcare waste which is not classed as clinical waste should not be placed in yellow bags but in tiger striped bags which will indicate that the contents are not clinical waste

Healthcare waste/offensive waste in small quantities may be collected as part of the refuse collection system however clinical was must not enter the general waste stream and separate arrangements for the collection of clinical waste must be made with the Department of Health and Social Care.

All Nursing Homes and other Health Care facilities within the Town have been contacted by letter to advise of this matter and ensure that non-conforming waste is not being collected and delivered to the Energy from Waste facility.

Recommendation: For information.

P. S. Harrison. Chief Technical Officer

8th January, 2019.

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS HOUSING AND PROPERTY MANAGER'S REPORT AULDYN MEADOWS ADDITIONAL PROPERTIES OFFER JANUARY, 2019 – PUBLIC

Mr. Chairman and Members,

As Members will recall, the Board resolved at their June, 2018, board meeting to acquire the 4 two-bedroomed apartments at Auldyn Meadows which are being constructed and sold, under a Section 13 Affordable Housing Agreement, by Dandara Ltd. It was further resolved at the October 2018 Board meeting to progress with the Business Case and petition for borrowing to purchase the properties.

A December 2018 Board report informed Members that Dandara Ltd., have submitted a planning application for the next phase of their development at Auldyn Meadows; 34 units and that the Department of Infrastructure (the Department) will receive the equivalent to 8.25 units in Housing or Commuted Sums. The Department has approached the Commission with an offer to purchase an additional 4 two-bedroom apartments from within that phase.

The cost per unit will be similar to those already being purchased at £140,000; they have been offered to the Commission for purchase as general public sector rental properties under a Section 13 Agreement, the acquisition will be of the freehold and the properties will have an NHBC guarantee.

A copy of the site plan showing the apartments being purchased (B8 - B11) and those being offered (C9 - C12) has been appended to this report as Appendix A.

There are also 4 two-bedroom semi-detached houses available to purchase at a unit price of £150,000 each. These are shown on the same site plan (Appendix A) and are shown on the plan as Larch 2, C13 to C16 and are adjacent to the aforementioned block of apartments. I have also appended the detailed drawing of the properties with this report as Appendix B.

The Board at the December meeting resolved that the matter be deferred pending submission of an analytical / demographic report of Housing Waiting List applicants from the Housing and Property Manager.

The table below illustrates the trend in housing applicants since the year 2013/14 to date. As shown, there is a steady decline of applicants' year on year. The current year shows the total number of applicants on the Northern Shared list where previous to this was for Ramsey only. Housing Applicants can chose three locations to live in the North of the Island and not all applicants on the Northern Shared List have chosen to live in Ramsey therefore a further breakdown is given below the table.

Housing and Property Manager's Report – Auldyn Meadows Additional Properties Offer January, 2019, Public Continued:

Year	Total No. on list	With Children	Without children
2013/14	142	39	103
2014/15	124	32	92
2015/16	107	24	83
2016/17	81	15	66
2017/18	74	13	61
2018/19 (Shared list)	86	18	68

There are currently a total of 86 applicants on the Northern Shared Housing Waiting List; 73 of these applicants wish to live in Ramsey and 16 of these applicants have children residing with them. 57 of the Ramsey applicants are on the one-bedroom housing list and 6 are on the two-bedroom housing list; all are either a single applicant or a couple with no resident children and all qualify for a two-bedroom apartment.

There are 10 applicants with one resident child that qualify for a two-bedroom house; 3 of these applicants are under 25 and the remaining 7 applicants are between 25 and 50 years old. 8 out of the 10 two-bedroom house applicants have given Ramsey or All North as their first choice of location with 2 applicants giving Ramsey as their second choice.

There are a large number of housing waiting list applicants waiting for a one and two-bedroom apartment and some waiting as long as 8 years, however there are only a small number on the 2 bedroom housing waiting list waiting for a two-bedroom house with the longest waiting applicant joining the list 2 years ago.

Possible risks involved with purchasing these properties include:

- Housing applicants don't accept the properties due to their location
- Current Housing applicants don't accept the properties as they are new and will cost more to provide standard fixtures and fittings to that of a re-let property in the existing stock i.e. new floor coverings, window blinds, curtains etc.

The Commission have £1.05m allocated in the Local Authority budgets after the borrowings for the four apartments at Auldyn Meadow if the Board wishes to acquire further units.

The Housing & Property Manager has been informed by the Department that they will support the acquisition of these units, that there is an understanding with the Department regarding the need to acquire homes to replace those anticipated at the Bus Station site but which did not materialise and there is an allowance within the IoM budget (Pink Book) of £1,650,000 for the purchase of new homes.

Housing and Property Manager's Report – Auldyn Meadows Additional Properties Offer January, 2019, Public Continued:

If the Ramsey Town Commissioners are in support of purchasing the additional aforementioned properties they will be required to seek the approval of the Department of Infrastructure:-

- 1. under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 1985 to acquire the properties at Auldyn Meadow, Ramsey from the developer Dandara Limited at their purchase price plus legal and other associated costs, for addition to the Commission's public sector housing stock; and
- 2. under Section 51 of the Local Government Act 1985 to borrow a sum, repayable within 30 years, to defray the cost of the aforementioned acquisition.

The annual cost of borrowing for the additional 4 two-bedroom apartments, assuming the full expenditure of £565,400.00 including legal and other associated fees is borrowed over 30 years at an indicative annual interest rate of 1.84%, are calculated as being £24,566.72, with total repayments of £737,001.60 including interest of £171,601.60.

The annual cost of borrowing for all the additional properties including the 4 two-bedroom and the 4 two-bedroom semi-detached houses, assuming the full expenditure of £1,170,600.00 is borrowed over 30 years at an indicative annual interest rate of 1.84%, are calculated as being £50,862.76, with total repayments of £1,525,882.80 including interest of £355,282.80.

The acquisition of these units by the Commission would be funded through the local authority capital programme under the local authority borrowing agreement. Loan charges on the borrowing for this purpose would be charged to the Commission's housing account and any deficit arising therefrom would be met by Government under the housing deficiency arrangement in accordance with the terms of the Tynwald Policy approved in October 1999.

Recommendation: for discussion to decide if the Commission wish to purchase the additional 4 two-bedroomed apartments being offered at Auldyn Meadows adjacent to the 4 already being purchased and decide if the Commission would like to express an interest in the 4 two-bedroomed houses being constructed adjacent to the apartments.

Mark Close Housing & Property Manager

10th January, 2019.

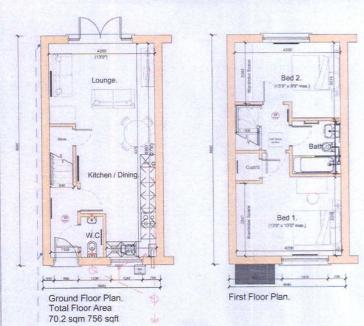
Auldyn Meadows Appendix Possible future development. M Pumping station with service hardstanding. 6.000 AS/3 FL-5.650 C16 5.500 C15 LARCH2 C17 8.540 Section of hedge to be removed. C14 LARCH2 C18 C13 6,650 FL 9.540 LAGCH2 C19 C11 & C12 Gote, FL 8/540 C21 C9 & C10 .500 C22 DARCH3 B 5540 LARCH3 ENDALE 5/500 REV. AMENDMENT **Planning** C8 6.000 award winning property FL-6/100 Dandara Group Head Office Isle of Man Business Park construction. Cooil Road Braddan Isle of Man 6.500 Tel: 01624 693300 Fax: 01624 693301 HAWTHORN FL 7:300 Email: isleofman@dandara.com Web: www.dandara.com HAWTHOR Proposed Development of Land East of Auldyn Meadow, 11800 Ramsey, Isle of Man. Site Layout. 7.000 1:500 Oct 2018 **JFC** 108 NO REV 2497 30.01

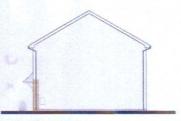


Typical Front Elevation. (Plots C13 and C14 shown.)
See Street Elevation Drawing 2497.31.01 for elevations of other houses.

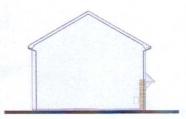


Rear Elevation.

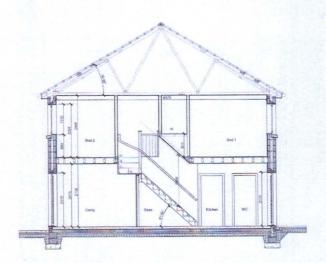




Side Elevation.



Side Elevation.



Typical Section



This drawing and the copyright remain the property of Danders Homes Limited. It may not be copied or altered without their written permission and must be returned to the Housing Department, when work is completed.

All dimansions must be checked on site. Any discrepancies should be notified to the Arrivects. Only written dimensions shall be followed.

Interials:

Redland Mini-Stonewold cancrete (les or similar, (dark gray).

White UPVC fascia and soff4

u-PVC windows (dark grey)

Peinted concrete ciris.

Verge tries fixed using 'Laferge' Rediand Ambi-dry verge system.

Painted hardwood entrance door

White render finish

Brickwork to be selected later.





dandara award winning property

Dandara Group Head Offic Isle of Man Business Park Cooil Road Braddan

as 50424-290300 Food: introducing dust trainer Aco. mondated interes

MEGI

7,3 807 768

Proposed Development of Land East of Auldyn Meadow, Ramsey, Isle of Man.

"Larch2" House.

1:50 & 1	:100	Oct 2018	JFC
108.40	DRA	04040	HEY
2497	32	2.02	



RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS HOUSING AND PROPERTY MANAGER'S REPORT PERIODIC RENTAL POLICY CONSULTATION JANUARY, 2019 – PUBLIC

Mr. Chairman and Members,

The Department of Infrastructure's Public Estates and Housing Division (DoI) have written to all Local Authority Housing Providers to consult on potential changes to the rent setting process.

A copy of the letter and consultation questionnaire is appended to this report.

In brief, the DoI are considering ending the annual rental setting process and changing it to a 5 year fixed levy rental period, linked to a recognised inflationary index such as the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

As part of the policy change, the DoI are considering maintaining the Treasury approved deficiency limits by accelerating and decelerating the Capital Programme during the fixed rental periods, indicating that it will give Central Government and the Treasury more ability in their financial planning.

The DoI also propose that except to confirm changes in levy, they will **only** consult with Local Authorities during the 5 year period under exceptional circumstances i.e. a significant and unforeseen inflationary increase/decrease.

From a housing management view, if the policy was changed from an annual rent setting process to a 5 year fixed rental period, a local authority will have more ability in managing their own financial planning in respect of rental income, maintenance and reserve budgets and other available allowances. More specifically, it would be better when planning large scale revenue funded repairs and maintenance projects and to manage the Housing Reserve Account and keep it within set perimeters levels.

The available allowances which include an administration allowance, a maintenance allowance and a communal allowance for sheltered housing which are currently set at 5.5%, 25.1% and 8.4% respectively should be considered within the proposed process.

Tenants may benefit from the proposed change as they will be given a wider projection of the rent charge for the property beyond the current year and therefore will be better informed when making their own financial decisions. They may have more stability and security when considering financial borrowing.

Town Clerk Comment:- The proposal would link annual rental increases to a predetermined index, however avoids the basic question of what a fair rent should be., The relationship with private sector rentals may be affected as whilst CPI includes rental values within its data indexes it is not necessarily the case that CPI will reflect rental changes, for example the 12 month CPI in November was recorded as 3.2% whereas the rental element index was 7.5%.

Housing and Property Manager's Report - Periodic Rental Policy Consultation - January, 2019, Public Continued

There remains a need to determine the relationship between public and private sector rentals and whether a differential should be maintained, especially if tenants on 5 year fixed tenancies re expected to be able to afford to move into the private rented sector if they fail to meet the housing criteria on review.

The proposal to accelerate or decelerate the capital programme as a means of controlling deficiencies requires more thought. In practice capital schemes can take a considerable period to develop and it is sometimes not practical to start and stop schemes as they can become impacted by inflationary increases and on occasion regulatory changes requiring redesign as a result of delays. In addition for larger schemes it is not possible to stop mid project and as capital expenditure can occur over 2,3 or more successive years there is no guarantee that CPI will be sufficient to fund such over the life of an individual or linked projects.

There is also likely to be a close relationship between inflation and development costs, the concept of delaying expenditure on capital schemes when inflation is low, and increasing it when inflation is rising seems counter intuitive as investment will be occurring during periods of higher or rising development costs and being held back when development costs are lowest and better value for money could be obtained. In general investment should take place during periods of low development costs as the industry is more competitive as it is seeking work. The Department may wish to consult with its own the Capital Projects Management unit before considering this proposal further.

The Department seeks responses to the following questions and draft responses for consideration are provided, although the questionnaire does not ask for Section 2 Responses these are provided as considered necessary to provide context to the Prt 1 response:-

Section 1 – Existing Arrangements				
1. As a housing provider, do you consider that the rental levy should be considered on an annual basis as it is at present?	Yes at the present time			

Housing and Property Manager's Report - Periodic Rental Policy Consultation - January, 2019, Public Continued

2. Only if you answered Yes to question 1, would you like to see any changes to the existing arrangements?

Whilst the principle of the proposal to introduce an index linked annual rental increase is accepted the Commission does not believe it is reasonable to proceed to adopt such until a determination has been made as to what a reasonable rent should be, and means tested system of rentals has been introduced. In adopting any new scheme regard must be had to determining the relationship between public sector and private market rentals, whether a differential should be provided for and how that differential is managed. Until this is achieved the Commission believes it is not practical to introduce a 5 year term provision.

If you answered Yes to question 1, please do not complete the remainder of the questionnaire

Section 2 – Policy Principle 1 (term of policy)

3. The Department considerers that 5 years is an appropriate time for the periodic rental policy as it links to both the term of the Capital Programme and of Fixed Term Tenancy Agreements. Do you agree?

No – the Commission does not agree that a link to the Capital Programme for the purpose of managing overall deficiencies through a mechanism of decelerating or accelerating the programme is workable.

4. Only if you answered No to question 3, what period do you think is a more appropriate?

(please comment below, or provide a separate response)

Section 3 – Policy Principle 2 (Index for the policy)

5. The Department considerers that the Index which should be used is the Consumer Price Index ('CPI') as this is the index widely used in housing and which seems most appropriate to public sector rental. Do you agree?

(please answer Yes/No) No

Housing and Property Manager's Report - Periodic Rental Policy Consultation - January, 2019, Public Continued

(please comment below, or provide a separate response)
question 5, what other index do you think is more appropriate?

CPI varies considerably from the housing rent index utilised within the overall calculation, for example the 12 month CPI in November 2018 was recorded as 3.2% whereas the rental element index was 7.5%.

Recommendation: for discussion and to complete the questionnaire and return it by the date specified of the 15th February 2019.

Mark Close Housing & Property Manager

T P Whiteway

Town Clerk & Chief Executive

9th January 2019.





To Local Authority Housing Clerks (via email)

Contact: Telephone: Fax: Email: Our Ref:

(01624) 685955 (01624) 685943 Deborah.reeve@gov.im DJR/EW

Your ref: Date:

14th December 2018

Dear All

Consultation: Periodic rental policy, general needs and sheltered housing

The purpose of this consultation is to request that Boards of Commissioners' of all Local Authority Housing Providers ('Local Authorities') consider potential changes to the rental setting process.

Proposal

The basic policy principles being considered are to:

- 1) end the annual rental setting process and instead, to introduce a periodic rental policy;
- 2) link the periodic rental setting process to a recognised inflationary index;
- maintain Treasury approved deficiency limits by accelerating and decelerating the Capital Programme; and
- 4) only under exceptional and previously agreed circumstance, such as a significant and unforeseen inflationary movement, revert to Local Authorities for their views.

Background

In 2012, a public sector tenant could anticipate paying a rental levy equivalent to 25-30% of market rate. More aggressive rental increases in the period 2013-2016 have resulted in stabilisation of the housing funding gap, such that a public sector tenant can now expect to pay a rental levy, averaging 50% of market rate.

The existing rental setting process starts annually in July when the Department writes out, seeking the views of all Local Authorities, and given the number of, and variance, in Board meetings, it is October before all feedback is received. The governmental approval process then follows, and it is generally December before Local Authority Boards can be advised of the Minister's decision.

The most significant disadvantages for all stakeholders involved in the existing rental setting process are that budget setting can be challenging and that there is very limited visibility for financial planning.

The perceived advantages of the changes to the policy are summarised as:

- More ability for financial planning for Local Authorities, increasing autonomy and enabling longer-term resourcing and procurement planning.
- More ability for financial planning for Central Government, removing the requirement to impress upon the Treasury the ongoing revenue and investment requirements for the sector, and likewise, simplifying the estimating process.
- More ability for financial planning for your tenants who will be able make more informed decisions based upon predefined rules, rather than awaiting the outcome of a Ministerial decision.
- More openness and transparency regarding revenue and expenditure, with a greater focus on affordability for the tenant than on reduction of the deficiency funding gap.
- A reduction in interest in Local Authority matters from national politicians.

In order to further explore these basic policy principles the Department would very much appreciate your response to the following short questionnaire, designed to gauge initial opinion. This feedback will help to shape the further development of the policy.

I should be grateful therefore if your responses could be returned to the Department, marked for the attention Rachel Smith via <u>Racheldoismith@gov.im</u> no later than 15th February 2019. A summary finding report will be issued shortly thereafter.

Thank you

Eric Whitelegg Head of Housing

Public Estates and Housing Division

Specimen model

A purely indicative specimen of how this policy might work is attached for reference. No inference should be made from any of the metrics used, as they are all subject to further consultation and development.

Table 1 – the principle of the model with upper and lower control limits.

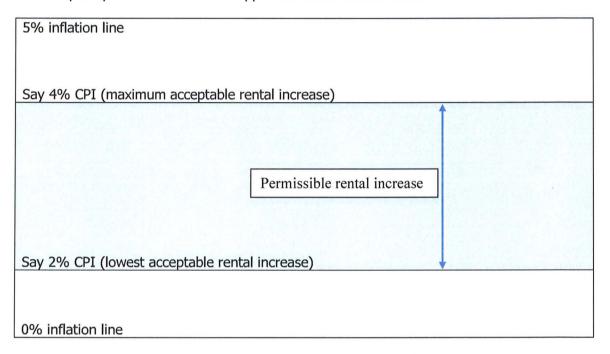
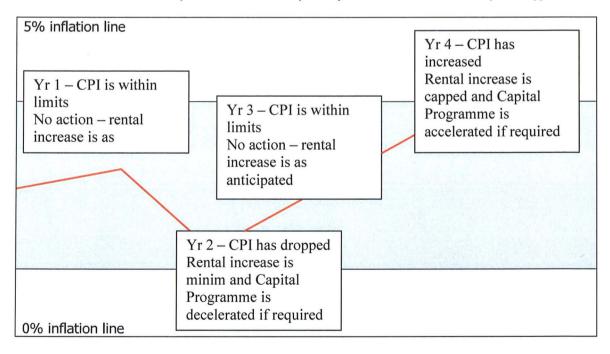


Table 2 – the same model with process controls in place (assumed to be tracked quarterly)



High-level Consultation on policy principles periodic rental setting

Local Authority:

Section 1 – Existing Arrangements	
1. As a housing provider, do you consider that the rental levy should be considered on an annual basis as it is at present?	(please answer Yes/No)
Only if you answered Yes to question 1, would you like to see any changes to the existing arrangements?	(please comment below, or provide a separate response)
	not complete the remainder of the questionnaire
Section 2 – Policy Principle 1 (term of p	olicy)
3. The Department considerers that 5 years is an appropriate time for the periodic rental policy as it links to both the term of the Capital Programme and of Fixed Term Tenancy Agreements. Do you agree?	(please answer Yes/No)
4. Only if you answered No to question 3, what period do you think is a more appropriate?	(please comment below, or provide a separate response)
Section 3 – Policy Principle 2 (Index for	the policy)
5. The Department considerers that the Index which should be used is the Consumer Price Index ('CPI') as this is the index widely used in housing and which seems most appropriate to public sector rental. Do you agree?	(please answer Yes/No)
6. Only if you answered No to question 5, what other index do you think is more appropriate?	(please comment below, or provide a separate response)

Section 4 – Policy Principle 4 (Link to C	apital Programme)
7. The Department considers that maintaining an acceptable and recognised deficiency by accelerating and decelerating the Capital Programme is the fairest way to maintain the policy. Do you agree?	(please answer Yes/No)
8. Only if you answered No to question 7, how do you think the rental policy could operate and the housing deficiency be maintained to an acceptable limit?	(please comment below, or provide a separate response)
Section 5 – Policy Principle 5 (Reverting	g to Local Authorities)
9. The Department considers that a significant advantage of the periodic rental policy is that once the parameters have been agreed, it should be largely self-maintaining and that therefore, unless previously agreed parameters are exceeded there should be no requirement to consult more than to confirm what the changes in the rental levy will be. Do you agree?	(please answer Yes/No)
10. Only if you answered No to question 9, under what terms do you think the Department should consult with Local Authorities if and when the policy comes into force?	(please comment below, or provide a separate response)
Any other comments	
	If of

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS TOWN CLERK'S REPORT COUNCIL OF MINISTERS LIBRARIES WORKING PARTY JANUARY 2019 – PUBLIC

Mr. Chairman and Members,

At the July Sitting of Tynwald the Report of the Select Committee on Library Provision 2017-2018 [PP No 2018/0046] was received and the following recommendations approved:

Recommendation 1

We recommend that the Council of Ministers establish a Working Party to continue with the important work of determining the future direction of the Island's libraries. This work should now move forward to undertake a detailed investigation into the provision and purpose of public library services.

This investigation should involve all those involved in library provision on the Island.

The Working Party should report to Tynwald no later than December 2019 on:-

- The purpose of public library services;
- The wider provision of library services across the Island;
- Use and cost of libraries; twelve months of data, to be collated and presented in a way which is in an agreed and consistent format used by all, re costs for staff, stock, facilities, utilities, training and other overheads; and usage including membership, footfall, loans, opening hours; additional services; and events;
- Options for a statutory requirement for provision.
- A Manx libraries' structure to include:
 - Options with outline plans for a future funding arrangement to include, but not be limited to, an all Island rate.
 - Options and plans for future co-operation to include, but not be limited to, a shared catalogue, all Island lending and return, all Island library Membership.

Recommendation 2

Tynwald is of the opinion that Isle of Man Government should provide funding to the Family Library Limited up to a total of £125,000 per annum for a maximum of two years to allow time for a Working Party to report into the future provision of the library services.

Town Clerk's Report - Council of Ministers Libraries Working Party - January, 2019, Public Continued:

The information and data to be provided will in the main be readily available; some will already been identified during the course of the Commission's own review of service being conducted through the Policy Committee.

The Head Librarian has been asked to report on the agreed method of data collection once available.

Members will note that the Working Party appears to have a clear direction towards an all-island library service funded through an all-island rate. It is expected that the opportunity may be provided to submit evidence or comment on a further draft report or consultation as this process progresses.

Recommendation: to be noted and further report.

T. P. Whiteway Town Clerk and Chief Executive

9th January, 2019.

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS JANUARY, 2019 – PUBLIC

Mr. Chairman and Members,

The following Report has been submitted by Mr. McGuinness:-

"Ramsey Chamber of Commerce- 7th January 2019

It was a well-attended meeting, one of the largest groups since I have been the representative and honoured by the presence of Alex Allinson MHK.

The main focus of the meeting was discussing how the Christmas period and activities were received and suggestions for improvement in 2019 including extending opening hours on Sundays or evenings but there was no consensus opinion or final decision made.

There was discussion about ways to raise the profile of Ramsey and there was a query regarding the budget available in RTC's event pot, I advised the Chamber that RTC would always be interested in supporting events in and around the town but we would not fund advertising in the traditional sense for the town generally. I took this opportunity to inform the Chamber of the potential TT event as previously agreed by the Board and at Mr Bevan's request advised the Chamber that some road closures would likely occur and that consultation would need to take place with interested parties prior to the event being undertaken.

An update was requested on the Street Cleaning Policy and I confirmed the current position of having been with the policy committee and its expected approval in the near future. The matter of parking in the town was once again discussed and we advised the Chamber that RTC had engaged with DfE's parking strategy in order to include Ramsey's parking goals within this.

The only item of AOB was a discussion around postal options and following brief discussion the meeting ended at 7.30 p.m."

January, 2019.