



**RECORD OF THE MEETING OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**HELD AT THE
COURT AND ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS, STANLEY**

THURSDAY 27 AUGUST 2026

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Speaker of the House
(Mr Keith Biles OBE)

MEMBERS (Ex-Officio)

The Honourable Chief Executive
(Dr Andrea Clausen)

The Acting Financial Secretary
(Mr Steven Cannon)

Elected

The Honourable Stacy John Bragger
(Elected Member for Stanley Constituency)

The Honourable Darwin Lewis Clifton OBE (Lewis Clifton OBE)
(Elected Member for Stanley Constituency)

The Honourable Dean Angus Dent
(Elected Member for Stanley Constituency)

The Honourable Jack Christopher Ford
(Elected Member for Camp Constituency)

The Honourable Michael Peter Goss
(Elected Member for Camp Constituency)

The Honourable Dorothy Ruth Gould (Dot Gould)
(Elected Member for Camp Constituency)

The Honourable Cheryl Ann Spencer Roberts
(Elected Member for Stanley Constituency)

The Honourable Roger Kenneth Spink
(Elected Member for Stanley Constituency)

PERSONS ENTITLED TO ATTEND

The Attorney General
(Mr Simon Young)

Deputy Commander British Forces, South Atlantic Islands
Group Captain Adele Straton

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE ASSEMBLY: Mrs Claire Law

PRAYERS: Revd Canon Kathy Biles

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**Record of the Meeting of the Legislative Assembly
Thursday 27 August 2026**

Prayers

Mr Speaker

Honourable Members, please be seated and I wish you all good morning and welcome to this meeting of the Legislative Assembly. My usual reminder please about electronic equipment be turned to silent.

Deputy Clerk of The Assembly

Confirmation of the Record of the Legislative Assembly held on the 30 July 2026.

Mr Speaker

Honourable Members, I have before me a record of that last Assembly meeting, is it your wish that I sign this as a true record?

Honourable Members

Yes

Mr Speaker

Thank you.

Deputy Clerk of the Assembly

Papers to be Laid on the Table by The Honourable Chief Executive

Copies of Subsidiary Legislation published in the Falkland Islands Gazette since the last sitting of the Legislative Assembly and laid on the Table pursuant to section 35(1) of the Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance 1977.

- Immigration (Suspension of Section 18 – Immigration Ordinance 1999) Order 2026
- Currency (Commemorative Coins) (No 5) Regulations 2026

In accordance with Section 80 (2) of the Constitution the reports from the Public Accounts Committee in respect of internal audit reports:

- Falkland Islands Tourist Board (FITB) Annual Report and Financial Statements Year End 30 June 2025

- South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute (SAERI) Trustees' Report and Financial Statements Year End 30 June 2025
- Falkland Islands National Sports Council Financial Statements Year End 30 June 2025
- 01/26 Business Continuity Planning Arrangements – Baseline Assessment Review - May 2026 – No Recommendations

In accordance with Section 81 (7) of the Constitution from the Public Accounts Committee in respect of:

- The Public Accounts Committee Planned Programme of Work for period July 2026 to June 2027

In accordance with the Assessment and Safeguarding of Adults Ordinance 2020, Schedule Part 3

- Falkland Islands Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2025/26

In accordance with the Children's Ordinance 2014 section 84

- Falkland Islands Safeguarding Children's Board Annual Report 2025/26

The Honourable Chief Executive

Mr Speaker, I hereby lay the aforementioned papers on the table.

The Honourable Lewis Clifton OBE

Mr Speaker, thank you. In respect of the Immigration Suspension of Section 18 of the Immigration Order of 2026, the applications at this moment for permanent residence permit under Section 18 will not be accepted by the Principal Immigration Officer whilst there remains a suspension in force. Mr. Speaker, I think this subject has been well aired currently, and I don't see the particular need to speak further on that unless it will.

The Honourable Dorothy Gould

Mr Speaker, I second the Motion.

Mr Speaker

Honourable Members, the Motion is that the Immigration (Suspension of Section 18 – Immigration Ordinance 1999) Order 2026 be noted.

Does any Honourable Member wish to speak to that Motion? Is there any objection to passing that Motion?

The Honourable Stacy Bragger

I think my concerns about the decision have been well aired at the last meeting, it's not a decision I agree with, so I won't be supporting it.

Mr Speaker

Okay. Is there any other Member wish to make a comment?

The Honourable Dean Dent

Can I ask a question?

Mr Speaker

The Motion is that this regulation be noted. But yes, you can.

The Honourable Dean Dent

Could I ask if work has commenced on the PRP review that has caused the pause of PRP applications?

The Honourable Lewis Clifton OBE

Mr Speaker, I can confirm that work is progressing, thank you.

Mr Speaker

Thank you. Any other Member wish to speak? The motion is that those regulations are noted. Any objection to passing that Motion? There is no objection. The order is noted.

The Honourable Jack Ford

Mr Speaker, under Standing Order Section 41 (3) I move that the Currency (Commemorative Coins) (No 5) Regulations 2026 be noted and this collection refers to the Remembrance Collection 2026 of £5 and £10 silver coins. Thank you.

Mr Speaker

Thank you. And a seconder please

The Honourable Lewis Clifton OBE

Mr Speaker, I second the Motion.

Mr Speaker

Honourable Members, the Motion is that the Currency (Commemorative Coins) (No 5) Regulations 2026 be noted.

Does any Honourable Member wish to speak to that Motion? Any objection to passing that Motion? There is no objection. The Currency (Commemorative Coins) (No 5) Regulations 2026 are noted.

The Honourable Stacy Bragger

Mr Speaker, under Standing Order Section 41 (3), I move that the update from the Public Accounts Committee in respect of Internal Audit Reports as listed by the Deputy Clerk and the Planned Programme of Work for period July 2026 to June 2027 be noted.

As a way of explanation, the reports as outlined by the Deputy Clerk were considered by the Public Accounts Committee, and no concerns were raised. The Planned Programme Work for July 2026 to June 2027 includes consideration of arrangements for auditing the Public Accounts and reporting to the Governor and the Legislative Assembly on the Public Accounts. The Committee will also review and report to the Legislative Assembly on the accounts of the statutory bodies, namely the Falkland Islands Development Corporation, Falklands Landholdings Corporation, and the Falkland Islands Tourist Board. In addition, the Committee will consider and report on the accounts of those bodies in receipt of public funds including the Media Trust, the Falkland Islands Museum and National Trust, Falklands Conservation, the National Sports Council and the South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute.

The Committee will review the accounts of bodies in which the Falkland Islands Government is a shareholder namely Stanley Services Limited and Stanley Growers, as well as those bodies in which a statutory body is a shareholder, specifically the Falkland Islands Meat Company Limited. The Committee will continue to consider any matters referred to by His Excellency the Governor, the Legislative Assembly or Executive Council and will review and report on all reports submitted by the Chief Internal Auditor during the year. As part of its ongoing work, the Committee will also follow up on recommendations and enquiries arising from previous investigations to ensure the recommendations accepted by the Falkland Islands Government are implemented in a timely manner. The Committee notes the completion of its review of the Deep Water Port FIPASS Replacement Phase One Project which was submitted to the Legislature Assembly in March of this year with the FIG response to the review being considered by Executive Council this week and we'll hear more on that later.

The Committee's current work streams comprise review of the procurement and contract for the new Fisheries Protection vessel and review of the Tussac House project. Projects which may be considered during 2026/27 include the FIGAS Hangar Proactis contract, RSK contract, five-year crane hire contract and the new sports facility. The Committee may also consider projects suggested by members of the public including the FIG Ramboll contract. Mr Speaker, I commend the report and the Planned Programme Work to the House.

Mr Speaker

And a seconder please

The Honourable Dorothy Gould

Mr Speaker I second the Motion

Mr Speaker

Honourable Members, the Motion is that the update from the Public Accounts Committee in respect of Internal Audit reports as listed by the Deputy Clerk and the Planned Programme of Work for period July 2026 to June 2027 are noted.

Does any Honourable Member wish to speak to that Motion? Is there any objection to passing that Motion? There is no objection.

Those reports and the Planned Programme of Work are noted.

The Honourable Dorothy Gould

Mr Speaker, under Standing Order Section 41 (3) I move that the Falkland Islands Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2025/26 and the Falkland Islands Safeguarding Children's Board Annual Report 2025/26 be noted.

By way of explanation, both of these annual reports detail the work carried out by the Safeguarding Children's and Adults Boards. The reports provide an overview of the work carried out between 1 June of 2025 and the 31st of May 2026 by the Boards alongside an outline of the Board's priorities and planned activity for the next year. The Board continues to benefit from strong representation across a wide range of professional disciplines and agencies, ensuring it has the breadth of expertise required to operate effectively.

Over the past year, the Board and its subgroups have continued to meet regularly to fulfil their core responsibility of coordinating the functions delivered by the Falkland Islands Government to safeguard and promote the welfare of both children and adults in our community. These reports detail a number of prosecutions involving Falkland Islands Government staff from the Stanley Leisure Centre including offences against children. In

response to these crimes, the Board have developed and agreed terms of reference for an independent learning practice review into safeguarding referrals which in turn have both been agreed by the Board and the Executive Council. The report also details the finalising of a plan for a supported living service for adults with learning disabilities, and the maintenance of increasing the level of safeguarding training and awareness that has been rolled out across the Falkland Islands Government and the rest of the community. The need to finalise the Mental Capacity and Deprivation of Liberty Ordinance, the need to develop knowledge and resilience in tackling online exploitation, and the goal to publish a new and strategic plan and a set of objectives are also contained within these reports. Thank you.

Mr Speaker

Thank you. And a seconder please

The Honourable Stacy Bragger

Mr Speaker, I second the Motion.

Mr Speaker

Honourable Members, the Motion is that the Falkland Islands Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2025/26 and the Falkland Islands Safeguarding Children's Board Annual Report 2025/26 are noted.

Does any Honourable Member wish to speak to that Motion? No debate. Is there any objection to passing that Motion? There is no objection. Those reports are noted.

Deputy Clerk of the Assembly

Questions for Oral Response

Question No. 09/26 by the Honourable Lewis Clifton OBE

The Honourable Lewis Clifton OBE

The Falkland Islands Government has committed to the delivery of a 60-plot housing estate at Murray Heights, the work of which is now progressing. 12 service plots are set aside for Navitas Petroleum and the balance for Government of which the 30 are committed to modular house construction, with the balance of the plots likely destined for similar modular accommodation units. Can the Honourable MLA Dean Dent reflect on the delivery timelines and the likely habitation date of all 60 accommodation units?

The Honourable Dean Dent

Thank you my Honourable Colleague for the question. The civil works for this development are now well underway. The project will be delivered in two phases, and the first phase or road excluding asphalt surfacing is due for completion in December 2026. The remainder of the state complete by March 2027. The asphalt programme is currently being finalised but will include the completion of this work.

For the modular units, contracts have been agreed with Module K and First Shield International (FSI). Manufacture is well underway and the first units are currently being completed. Eight units, two for FIG and six for Navitas are loading in the UK in October. They'll be completed on site in December and will be ready for habitation in January 2027. A further 15 units, nine for FIG are due to load in November will be completed on site in December, January, and will be ready for habitation in February 2027. The remaining 19 all FIG units are expected to be loaded in the UK in February and be completed on site in April and will be ready for habitation in May 2027. A paper is currently being prepared for consideration for the remaining 18 units to complete the site and should be with Members next month. However, at the moment, I couldn't comment on a date that those last 18 units will be inhabited.

The Honourable Lewis Clifton OBE

Mr. Speaker, thank you. I thank the Honourable Dean Dent for his answer. I wonder if he may be able to reflect on the breakdown of the 18 modular units that are destined to fill the site. Will they be singular or double? Thank you.

The Honourable Dean Dent

Thank you my Honourable Colleague. So initially, it was thought that the majority would be single units or favour single units. However, due to single units not offering as much flexibility as double units, the weighting will be in favour of double units to single units.

The Honourable Lewis Clifton OBE

Mr Speaker, I thank the Honourable Member for his answer.

Mr Speaker

Is there any Honourable Member wishing to raise a supplementary question?

The Honourable Roger Spink

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank my Honourable Colleague Dean Dent, for his reply. I just wondered what thought has been given to whether or not these units for FIG are for the contractor pool or for the local pool?

The Honourable Dean Dent

Thank you my Honourable Colleague. With the release of the most recent FIG properties on Bennett's Paddock, there was a timing issue that meant the ratio of those properties were in favour to the contractor housing pool, so it is FIG and hopefully this Assembly's wish to bias the local pool in Murray Heights.

Mr Speaker

Any other supplementary question? Move on.

Deputy Clerk of the Assembly

Question No. 10/26 by the Honourable Lewis Clifton OBE

The Honourable Lewis Clifton OBE

Mr Speaker, apologies. Housing was a fairly key issue, I think in the hustings. The Falkland Islands Government has paused for 6 months, the Sapper Hill Development of Phase 7 to facilitate swift roll out of the Murray Heights housing development. Two phases of Phase 7 development are proposed, the first allocating housing plots for first time buyers or others who qualify for registration on the Housing List. Can the Honourable MLA Dean Dent indicate when the first phase of plots of Phase 7 will become available, and would he care to indicate the change of focus to allow successful bidders to engage in purchasing plots earlier than previous developments have allowed?

The Honourable Dean Dent

I thank my Honourable Colleague for the question. So, to date, resource levels have actually allowed some works to continue Sapper Hill Phase Seven, and this has reduced the rate of construction slightly, which should mean the overall delay that was first anticipated should be shorter and hopefully should be less than the anticipated six months.

Currently, Phase One, the first loop, will be completed by November 2027, and Phase Two, the second loop by May 2028. The intention is to allow potential purchasers to engage six months ahead of the completion date. So, for the first loop, that will hopefully be May 2027. This will allow time for the allocation process, agreeing of mortgages, and a submission of planning permission all to take place while the plots are being completed. I think it's worth noting that the Financial Secretary has also been working closely with

Standard Chartered Bank to look into raising the cap on the joint general mortgage scheme, and this should hopefully fall in line with the dates mentioned for release of the plots.

The Honourable Lewis Clifton OBE

Speaker, I thank the Honourable Dean Dent for his response. Given that the Assembly took office with Phase 7 in a plot development scenario, and not one stick of timber budgeted for to build anything there. I would be inclined to say that a combination of Members round the table in Sullivan House and Executive Council moving matters forward so that crystallised funds were available for the Murray Heights development. Would my Honourable Colleague agree that this is a positive step forward rather than a detrimental one?

The Honourable Dean Dent

No, thank you for the comment. No, you're completely correct. Prior to this Assembly being in place, there was absolutely no money whatsoever attributed to providing housing either on Sappers Hill or anywhere else in Stanley, and I think the crystallisation of the original £10M and then the further ExCo approval of additional funding is well, it's a major step in helping combat the deficit that we have on social housing.

Mr Speaker

Any supplementary questions?

The Honourable Stacy Bragger

Not a question, but just a comment. Pleasing to hear the work that's going to be continuing with the Sapper Hill development and also the Murray Heights work with a lot of momentum behind that. I think it's all really good stuff, but I think the Murray Heights is just enough to keep our head above water, and we will need to delve back into the bank account to fund further housing, I believe. So, I think that's definitely a conversation that will need to be had. Thank you.

The Honourable Dean Dent

Thank you, my Honourable Colleague. I concur, to be honest, I completely agree. There is currently work being carried out on the first-time buyers list and ascertaining whether the full almost 200 occupants in the list is in fact, factual. This work will allow us to sort of work out whether the second phase of Sappers Hill will be released entirely to first-time buyers, or whether there's the possibility of FIG providing housing there also. There

is also the issue that Sappers Hill Phase 7 is currently the only service land available to build on, and waiting for further service land would just increase the time frame in which we could deliver housing.

The Honourable Lewis Clifton OBE

Mr Speaker, the Honourable Dean Dent has reminded me that at one point we were discussing certain plot infills. Can the Honourable Dean Dent just make a comment in terms of where that sort of policy or that idea has now morphed to? Thank you.

The Honourable Dean Dent

Thank you. That was paused due to the cost of the project. However, it did get to a point where that project can be picked up at any time if this Assembly wished it.

Mr Speaker

Any other Member wish to raise a supplementary question?

The Honourable Dean Dent

It also might be worth noting that FIG are currently looking at the way in which they would possibly deliver that second tranche of housing on Phase 7, and that would be whether FIG fund it completely or hopefully companies within the private sector could participate in that as well.

Deputy Clerk of the Assembly

Question No. 11/26 by the Honourable Stacy Bragger

The Peatland Greenhouse Gas project was launched in 2024 with the installation of four carbon flux towers. The project has had the aims of improving knowledge around carbon storage and emissions from Falklands habitats and assessing the potential for carbon offsetting in the future. Funding for the project has now concluded. Can the Honourable Michael Goss please outline the Falkland Islands Government's assessment of the project to date and whether there are plans for the work to continue.

The Honourable Michael Goss

I thank my Honourable Colleague for his question, and I will try not to bore you all to death with the answer. We now have two years' worth of data from the Peatland Greenland House Gas Project, which is also known as the Carbon Flux Towers project. The main

purpose of this project was to understand greenhouse gas emissions from peatlands across four different habitat and land use types. We wanted to find out if our peatlands were emitting greenhouse gases or if they were sequestering them, because if they were sequestering greenhouse gases, there may be an opportunity to enter into carbon offsetting schemes, which has the potential to bring in revenue. Initial results have been very encouraging. They show that some of our peatlands absorb more carbon dioxide than they release, making them net carbon sinks. However, the work has only just begun. Two years of data collection is just the first step to build the evidence case for a carbon offsetting scheme. We need several more years of monitoring to build up a robust data set. The data collected over the past two years was not representative though of normal conditions, because we were just coming out of a relatively dry period when the project initially started. Therefore, collecting a longer-term data set is crucial to provide the level of confidence that would be required by carbon offsetting schemes. Government Officers have been looking into the feasibility of these various schemes.

The project was led by Falklands Conservation in partnership with FIG, SAERI, RSK, British Antarctic Survey, and the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology. The main operating funding for this project came from the UK Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). This funding ended in July. Attempts to secure further external funding have been unsuccessful. FIG is invested in this project and is keen to continue it. FIG will contribute funds from within existing budgets to ensure that the project remains live and the flux towers can continue gathering at least the minimum amount of data. Officers will continue to work with project partners on funding options for longer-term monitoring of our peatlands, and they will continue to explore ways to engage with carbon offsetting schemes in the future.

The Honourable Stacy Bragger

Mr Speaker, thanks to my Honourable colleague for that response. I think it is a worthwhile project, and I think carbon offsetting is an interesting area. I think maybe it doesn't have the huge financial potential that's been spoken about in the future, but I think there certainly is the opportunity for financial returns, but I think it is just a good project environmentally, scientifically to be doing, and it's encouraging to hear that the Falkland Islands Government believes it is worthwhile and that options to continue it are progressing, so thank you very much.

Mr Speaker

Any other Member wish to raise a supplementary question?

Deputy Clerk of the Assembly

Reports

Report from Executive Council held 12th and 25th August 2026 by the Honourable Jack Ford

The Honourable Jack Ford

Mr Speaker, report back from the Executive Council on the 12th and 25th of August.

Email Resolution 12th August 2026 by MLAs Clifton, Roberts and Ford:

Updated Census Order 2026

Executive Council approved a revised Statistics (Census) Order 2026 to include additional questions for vaping, internet service provision, and electric vehicles; and to fix October as the month for the 2026 Census.

A meeting of Executive Council was held on 12th August 2026. MLAs Clifton, Roberts and Ford were in attendance. Unless otherwise stated, decisions were unanimous. Executive Council considered the following papers:

Stanley Growers – Subvention Request – Closed paper

Executive Council approved the provision of a subvention to Stanley Growers Limited to assist in providing working capital for the business. The subvention will be funded from existing budgets.

Modular Housing Development Dispensation – Closed paper

Following an Executive Council decision in May to progress an accelerated modular housing solution at Murray Heights, this paper sought approval to enter into contract with two modular housing suppliers.

Executive Council approved the recommendations and authorised officer to finalise contract details.

A meeting of Executive Council was held on 25th August 2026. MLAs Clifton, Roberts and Ford were in attendance. Unless otherwise stated, decisions were unanimous. Executive Council considered the following papers:

Interim Illex Allocation and Licensing Policy

MLA Roberts elected not to be present whilst this item was discussed due to possible perceived interests. MLA Spink took her place.

The Illex fishery is one of the Falkland Islands' most significant fisheries and an important source of revenue to FIG.

Since 2021, a series of policy and process changes have been introduced to improve sustainability, economic performance, vessel safety, and crew welfare. These changes have included application scoring criteria, vessel safety and welfare requirements, and the introduction of ‘letters of comfort’ providing multi-year preferential access to qualifying vessels in conjunction with local companies.

The current policy framework expired at the end of the 2026 fishing season. While Executive Council agreed in principle in 2019 to move towards a rights-based management system for the Illex fishery, significant policy, legislative and governance work remains before such a system can be implemented.

It is therefore not considered feasible to introduce a robust long-term access regime before 2030, creating the need for an interim licensing policy for the period 2027-2029.

This paper presented options, including amendments made following consultation with industry.

Considering the work, progress, and challenges faced over recent years, the paper presented the following objectives to inform decision-making over an interim licence allocation policy for the period 2027-2029:

- a) Establish a clear and predictable licence allocation policy and process, in accordance with the current statutory regime, that offers maximum possible certainty for the FIG, local fishing companies, and foreign vessel owners throughout the period in which long-term access arrangements for the Illex fishery are being developed.
- b) Enable the systematic collection of data, evidence, and information necessary to inform the design of the long-term access framework and the future management objectives for the Illex fishery.
- c) Enable local companies to further develop, test, and demonstrate their operational roles, business arrangements, and levels of effective control and active involvement to support the design and implementation of a future ITQ system.
- d) Seek to preserve the improvements in vessel safety and crew welfare standards achieved in recent years, and continue, where feasible, to incentivise or require further enhancements in line with FIG policy priorities and international best practice.
- e) Recognise the investments, commitments, and resource allocations made by local companies and vessel owner/operators in anticipation of any potential future ITQ system.
- f) Ensure that licence allocation decisions made during the 2027 to 2029 period do not pre-determine, constrain, or create precedents for the structure, allocation method, or distribution of rights under any future long-term access arrangements, thereby maintaining full flexibility for FIG to design an optimal future policy framework.

Following consideration of the options presented and the industry feedback, Executive Council:

- (a) Agreed that it is important to ensure vessel numbers can be varied for reasons related to economic sustainability and conservation purposes.
- (b) Agreed that it is important to ensure local ownership of companies operating in a key fishery.
- (c) Approved the interim Illex licence allocation policy.
- (d) Directed the Director of Natural Resources to develop a project plan that sets out the approach and intended timetable for further development of proposals for a long-term ITQ system for Illex, including key milestones, processes and dependencies.

The interim Illex licence allocation policy includes the following key sections:

- A maximum of 107 vessels will be licensed each year to fish in the fishery for the 2027, 2028 and 2029 seasons. This number reflects and is essentially consistent with the total number of valid letters of comfort issued by FIG for the preceding three fishing seasons, in 2024, 2025 and 2026. FIG will continue to adopt a precautionary approach to the fishery, and it may therefore reduce the number of licences if it considers that is necessary or appropriate in the light of evidence regarding economic sustainability or stock conservation.
- For each of the three fishing seasons covered by this Interim Policy, FIG intends to allocate licences exclusively to the seven local companies listed. These companies have an established track record of participation in the fishery. Licence allocations will be made in proportion to each company's share of the valid Letters of Comfort held during the 2024-2026 period.
- Where the total number of licences available differs from 107, the number allocated to each company will be adjusted proportionately in accordance with the percentage shares set out in the policy.
- The number of licences and their allocation among these companies will apply only to the 3-year period covered by the interim policy. Nothing in this document, and nothing concerning the interim policy generally, should be understood as constituting or implying any commitment by FIG going forward. FIG makes no commitment concerning the number of licences that will be issued after the 3-year period covered by the interim policy, whether licences will be allocated to the same seven local companies, nor whether the number of licences allocated to them will be maintained.
- The policy also covers vessel licensing and substitution, transferring allocation entitlement, and additional information requested of local companies to inform longer-term policy development.

Fishing (Illex) Licence and Transhipment Fees 2027

MLA Roberts elected not to be present whilst this item was discussed due to possible perceived interests. MLA Spink took her place.

The Illex fishery is one of the Falklands most significant fisheries and an important source of revenue to FIG. However, the fishery operates in an environment of uncertainty regarding future catches, market prices, fleet profitability and participation.

The current fee structure incorporates loyalty discounts that were introduced under previous licence allocation arrangements. Under the new interim allocation policy for 2027-2029, Falkland Islands companies will receive greater comfort for the period 2027-2029, greater flexibility in selecting vessels, and be able to transfer allocations. In this context, this paper considered that removing loyalty discounts is a rational policy step and supports the transition toward a future rights-based management system.

Since 2021, a series of policy and process changes have been introduced to improve sustainability, economic performance, vessel safety and crew welfare. These changes included the introduction of 'letters of comfort' providing multi-year preferential access to qualifying vessels jointly with local companies.

Various licence fee discounts (relating to early payment and loyalty) have also been provided to help incentivise ongoing participation in the fishery, with these discounts gradually removed over time.

While Executive Council agreed in principle in 2019 to move towards a rights-based management system for the Illex fishery, significant policy, legislative and governance work remains before such a system can be implemented. Therefore, an interim licensing policy for the period 2027–2029 has been agreed.

Under the interim licence allocation policy, a maximum of 107 Illex licences will be available annually during 2027-2029. These licences will be allocated among the seven established Falkland Islands companies. Companies will have flexibility to select vessels annually, substitute vessels where required, and transfer unused allocation entitlements between companies, subject to specified limits and regulatory oversight.

The paper presented various options, including options which incorporated industry feedback.

Taking into account the approval of the interim Illex licence allocation policy for 2027-2029, which provides greater comfort and stability to the seven established Falkland Islands companies, Executive Council approved no change to the gross vessel fee from 2026, and the removal of the loyalty discount. This will increase revenue to FIG by an estimated £1.63 million, equivalent to an estimated change in average net vessel fee of £15,207.

Executive Council also approved no change in the transhipment/export licence fees, and authorised the making of the Fishing Transhipment and Export (Licence Fees etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2026 according to these decisions.

Policy for Introducing Pilotage Regulations under Section 52 of the Harbours and Ports Ordinance 2017 and Proposing Other Minor Amendments to this Ordinance

MLA Clifton declared an interest in this matter and was not present whilst this item was discussed. MLA Spink took his place.

This paper sought approval of the draft policy, which will provide the basis for drafting and introducing the Pilotage Regulations, thus completing the framework required to support FIMA and the pilotage provider in formalising an effective and efficient pilotage scheme.

This paper follows decisions made in 2024 and 2025 to approve the draft amendment bill to the Ordinance which sought to introduce new provisions to support the delivery of the pilotage service, and on the signing of a letter of agreement with the current pilotage service provider on the continuation of the current arrangements.

Executive Council approved the Policy, approved that drafting instructions will be prepared and thereafter the proposed amendment Bill and Pilotage Regulations will be drafted alongside work to finalise the Stanley Harbour Compulsory Pilotage Direction.

As the draft Bill and Regulations are developed, consultation with the Falkland Islands maritime sector will be conducted via the Maritime Committee. Consultation results will be included in a further Executive Council paper requesting approval of the final drafts of both the Stanley Harbour Pilotage Regulations and the Stanley Harbour Compulsory Pilotage Direction.

Loan Application MLM 508-509 – Closed paper

Executive Council ratified a business loan application following its recent approval by the FIDC Board.

Post Office Contract – Closed paper

This paper sought approval for dispensation to enter into a new contract, subject to successful negotiations for the provision of postal services. Due to ongoing commercial negotiations, no further detail can be provided at this time.

Sovereign Wealth Fund – Broad Objectives and Governance Structure

Following a Legislative Assembly Motion in January 2026 to establish a Sovereign Wealth Fund, this paper proposed the broad policy objectives that will underpin how the fund is managed. It also sets out the overarching legal and governance structures required to ensure the Sovereign Wealth Fund operates at arm's length from FIG. To ensure international credibility and transparency, the proposals in this paper seek to align the Sovereign Wealth Fund with the Santiago Principles, officially known as the Generally Accepted Principles and Practices (GAPP) published by the International Forum of Sovereign Wealth Funds.

This paper presented work on the initial stages of the establishment of the Sovereign Wealth Fund. Further papers will be presented to approve the legislation and refine the details of how the fund will operate.

Executive Council approved the following recommendations:

- That it be established in law that all funds from oil production royalties be paid into the Sovereign Wealth Fund.
- That the overarching policy objectives for the Sovereign Wealth Fund are:
 - o Objective 1: To ensure that short-term revenues are invested and managed in a manner that provides long-term, inter-generational value for Falkland Islanders.
 - o Objective 2: To provide fiscal stabilization and insulate the Falkland Islands from economic shocks or unforeseen downturns.
 - o Objective 3: To strengthen the economy of the Falkland Islands.
- That the policy objectives of the Sovereign Wealth Fund be set out in law.
- That the Falkland Islands be established in law as the owner of the Falkland Islands' Sovereign Wealth Fund, and
- That the Sovereign Wealth Fund be established by law as a corporation owned by the Falkland Islands Government.

Future of Telecommunications – Closed paper

Executive Council agreed the next stage of planning to secure robust telecommunications provisions for the Falkland Islands. Work will now begin on shaping future market models and opportunities for public engagement will be outlined soon.

Full public communications are being planned to reflect decisions made. Owing to strong commercial sensitivities, no comment can be made until they are published.

Response to the Public Accounts Committee - Review of the Deep Water Port Project (letter dated 17/03/2026)

The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) undertook a review of the New Port Facility Project and concluded that the BAM New Port Facility project did not deliver value for money for the Falkland Islands Government and the Falkland Islands taxpayer. The review considered project governance, procurement, risk management, cost escalation, financial oversight and reporting arrangements.

The PAC made a series of recommendations intended to strengthen the governance and delivery of future major capital infrastructure projects. These recommendations focus on project cost transparency, value for money methodologies, financial risk management, independent financial scrutiny, reporting arrangements, project governance, requirements definition and project monitoring.

The Government welcomes the work undertaken by the PAC and recognises the importance of learning lessons from major infrastructure projects. Many of the recommendations align with changes already implemented since the New Port Facility project commenced, while others will help inform future improvements to project delivery and governance.

Executive Council approved the submission of the response to the Legislative Assembly, and that the report be made public after submission to the Legislative Assembly.

Criminal Law - Intimate Image Offending - Approval of Crimes (Amendment) Bill 2026

This paper presented the Crimes (Amendment) Bill which amends the Crimes Ordinance 2014 to create criminal offences relating to intimate image offending. The Bill puts into effect the policy previously approved by Executive Council in June 2026.

Executive Council approved the Bill for publication in the Gazette for the First Reading, and for its presentation to the Legislative Assembly.

Royal Falkland Islands Police Annual Policing Plan 2026

The Police Ordinance 2000 directs the Police Committee to consider policing objectives and how they can be implemented each fiscal year. The committee is asked to consider the written views of the Chief Police Officer.

This Annual Policing Plan 2026 sets out how the Royal Falkland Islands Police will serve the community for the year. These objectives will complement and are in addition to providing the day-to-day policing service and emergency response in keeping the Falkland Islands community safe.

The goal of the Royal Falkland Islands Police is to provide a visible, trusted, and modern policing service that protects people, prevents harm, and responds effectively when crime occurs.

Executive Council approved the Policing Plan, including the following strategic priorities:

- Safeguarding
- Community confidence and engagement
- Crime prevention and visibility
- Road safety

Proposed Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding Between the MOD and FIG concerning the Provision of Search and Rescue – Closed paper

Executive Council approved amendments to the MOU between the MOD and FIG concerning the provision of Search and Rescue regarding charging.

Immigration Review Matters – Closed papers

Executive Council considered two papers concerning personal immigration matters.

National Nature Reserves Proposal

Executive Council noted the results of the public consultation for designating additional nature reserves, approved the designation of the proposed National Nature Reserves, authorised the development of management agreements with private landowners and development of management plans, and authorised the drafting of the legislation under the Conservation of Wildlife and Nature Ordinance 1999.

Development of the management plans and agreements will utilise existing resources within the Environment Department. The proposal has been developed to minimise both

direct financial costs and human resource requirements by adopting a proportionate light-touch approach.

The designation of National Nature Reserves under the Conservation of Wildlife and Nature Ordinance 1999 will provide statutory protection for habitats, plants and animals in perpetuity, by prohibiting certain activities within National Nature Reserves that could harm the environment and ensure the sustainable management of natural resources for the benefit of present and future generations. The proposal will add 6,245 hectares to the National Nature Reserves network.

The proposed designation will contribute towards the Falkland Islands Government's commitments and international obligations to address biodiversity protection.

Infectious Disease Controls - Review of Notifiable Diseases

A recent emergency planning table-top exercise considered responses to potential infectious disease scenarios. A number of actions were identified arising out of the exercise. This report addresses one of those actions.

The Infectious Diseases Ordinance 2003 makes provision in relation to the reporting, monitoring and other measures in relation to infectious diseases. Section 3 of the Ordinance defines the "notifiable diseases", and section 4 refers to a list of other diseases. The diseases are listed for the purposes of ensuring that they are notified (including to the World Health Organization).

The lists of diseases do not accord with the current notifiable diseases under the WHO International Health Regulations, nor the current list of notifiable diseases applicable in England.

Executive Council:

- Authorised the Director of Health and Social Services to determine what changes should be made to the Infectious Diseases Ordinance 2003, including, at least, to update to the lists of notifiable diseases;
- Added the project to the Legislation Programme; and
- Authorised the Attorney General to draft legislation to give effect to the proposed changes, for subsequent approval by Executive Council.

Mr Speaker, that concludes my Executive Council report.

The Honourable Chief Executive

Sorry, I just wanted to make a clarification for my Honourable Colleague's summary there. But for the Post Office contract Dispensation Request, I just wanted to put on record that I left the room for the item when it was discussed at Executive Council in case of any perceived contract conflict. There isn't any actual, but in case there was any perceived conflict.

The Honourable Jack Ford

Mr Speaker, I do apologise for accidentally omitting that from my report, having prepared in fairly short time periods, quite late last night.

Mr Speaker

Does any Honourable Member wish to make a comment on that Executive Council report?

The Honourable Dean Dent

Thank you, Mr Speaker. I'll start off with a positive thing, I think. With the response to the PAC, I think it's very commendable to note that the improvements that have occurred in the project governance through the Capital Delivery Team, the Project Boards that FIG have established, and evidence of that is that many of the recommendations that the PAC have given FIG actually currently honouring, and I think that is a positive move forward considering our past history with capital projects.

On the sovereign wealth fund paper, I understand that the following cannot be completely ensured. However, I would like to know if Executive Council, in further papers in the setting up of the fund, will do everything in its power to insulate and protect the Falkland Sovereign Wealth Fund from future political influence. As we all may know, that changing political ideologies are at the top of the Falkland Islands Government's Corporate Risk Register.

The Honourable Jack Ford

Mr Speaker, the paper is a public paper and will be made available to everyone very soon. But it makes very clear in the paper that there are a number of risks associated with sovereign wealth funds when looking at many, many examples around the world. It's often referenced by not only Members in this House but many across the Falklands that I think we always look to tend to look to Norway as the best example in the world currently of an operating sovereign wealth fund I think, and that has long been referred to, and I think we see that as the basis for the formation of a future fund in the Falklands, and we strive to hopefully ensure that the Falkland Islands Sovereign Wealth Fund is even better.

The paper does note, when expanding upon each of the individual objectives, the number of risks that they seek to project. And as he's noted, that risk of political interference in the future to ensure the long-term protection of those funds for future generations and I

think it's important, and I hope my Honourable Colleague takes some comfort in the fact that the main objective references ensuring that the short-term revenues generated by hydrocarbons are there for the intergenerational benefit of Falkland Islanders, and that being the very, very long-term benefit of Falkland Islanders. So, while of course there are risks that exist, we are all and the Executive Council are very, very much aware of the risks that are there, and are keen to see them mitigated against as much as possible. Of course, as part of this project, there will be a number of discussions with all Members and other Officers, and I'm sure at some point the public, before we see the final establishment of that sovereign wealth fund so that there will be many opportunities before that point to comment and contribute to the establishment of the fund.

The Honourable Dean Dent

Thank you very much.

Mr Speaker

Any other Honourable Member wish to raise a comment or question on that Executive Council Report?

The Honourable Michael Goss

Mr Speaker, so rising to my Honourable Colleagues in Exco, I would raise a quick question in regards to the Sovereign Wealth Fund, and this is open floor to you all. I fully support, this is more in statement, if anything else. I fully support the creation of the fund and actually agree that the funds generated need to be carefully shepherded.

However, I would like to ask Members of ExCo if any consideration was given to releasing a percentage of these funds to allow government the ability to grow, even whilst we face a massive financial deficit. When we look at how we are pushing forward against the current costings of things, we do face a potential that we could potentially become cash rich and asset poor as we go forward. So, I was wondering if there was any consideration given for the release of a percentage of those funds during the creation and ultimately the ongoing process of the fund. Thank you.

The Honourable Cheryl Roberts

My Honourable Colleague, I'll just answer that quite quickly. We did have a discussion in Executive Council, and that was surrounding how we deal with the fund when it first commences, and whether we put aside a percentage or a set amount for capital projects into the future. Because it is very, very important, as you say, that we actually don't

become cash rich but asset poor. That would be a foolish thing to do, and I think we do need to protect all the generations including the generations that are with us now.

The Honourable Michael Goss

I rise to thank my Honourable Colleague for her answer.

Mr Speaker

Any other Honourable Member?

The Honourable Lewis Clifton OBE

Mr Speaker, if I may. I thank the Honourable Michael Goss for his question. I understand it completely. I support and concur with the views of the Honourable Cheryl Roberts. One matter that has worried me significantly over the last few days is the level of debt that we are carrying, that's debt that the government is carrying rather than just the deficit, and I fear, my own fear is that we will get to a point where royalties start accruing, or the first royalties starts accruing, and we don't have the funds in order to take those next forward steps for the next two or three years so we could end up as the Honourable Michael Goss says becoming rather cash rich and asset poor, and I think that's something we need to look at in some detail as we develop the Island Plan and all those other strategies that hopefully will bolt onto that. So, I accept and agree entirely with the views expressed by Honourable Michael Goss. Thank you.

The Honourable Dean Dent

Mr Speaker, as it's a public paper, can I just quote 5.10 from it? Furthermore, to reinforce the aim to maintain the Sovereign Wealth Fund in perpetuity, options to be presented will include a minimum number of years when there is no access to the fund. This initial lock-up period will provide the opportunity for the fund to become established and provide time to prioritise planned expenditure. Operational and capital funding will be sourced as normal from FIG operations. It is important to note that Members weren't being asked to approve such a lock-up period now as part of this report, but it's highlighted here to provide context. You speak to that?

The Honourable Jack Ford

Mr Speaker, in an attempt to provide an amount of comfort to both of the questions from my Honourable colleagues. This paper, I think the core decisions made in this paper around the objectives and the intention to see those objectives set in law, and also

around the decision that all funds from all royalties will be allocated to the fund in the first instance. So, while a number of things are noted, as my Honourable Colleague MLA Dean Dent referenced that there currently aren't plans around the details of possible withdrawal options. That detailed work very much will happen as part of the next stage, that the decision made by Executive Council on Tuesday was very much focused on those principles, and I think hopefully that those principles cover both the concerns of my Honourable Colleagues in relation to being able to access funds for the future benefit of not as an investment in the Falklands but also the protection of those funds for the long term benefit of the Falklands. So I think while the paper does touch on in an amount of detail possible future options and what is and isn't being considered at the moment, I would say that those things aren't totally excluded from future detailed discussions on the final outcome of the establishment of the Sovereign Wealth Fund.

The Honourable Dean Dent

I thank my Honourable Colleague for his response. On the immigration review matters, so these are obviously close papers. However, since Executive Council approved the new immigration health assessment policy in June, there's been a significant number of these presented to Executive Council. My question is, has the new policy or perhaps how late the health assessment comes in the employment process affected FIG's ability to employ key staff, or possibly prolonged that period of time that employment takes?

The Honourable Jack Ford

Mr. Speaker, I thank my Honourable Colleague for his question. Since the general election, this Assembly has approved a couple of different policies, mainly around health immigration matters, defining the list of health conditions that would be considered as part of the medical immigration process, also a number of other policies. There's also been a strengthening of the immigration health assessment form, which is I think, given great improvements to the system. But yes, however, we do still see a rather regular stream of immigration appeals coming to Executive Council. I suppose it's important to note that it is important that there's an appeals process and that those individuals have the right to appeal those decisions, and then Executive Council is the place that those appeals go to. I would say yes, there is there is a time impact on recruitment of a decision going being refused and an application being refused and going through the appeal processes that does take time to review for information to be gathered and papers to be presented. However, again, I think it's important that process exists, and it will just take time to work through that. There has been positive work within FIG. I can't speak for us, we're in the Falklands, but within FIG to improve our recruitment processes to ensure that questions, possibly related to challenges that may arise through the immigration application process as part of someone's job application are raised through the recruitment process to try and highlight issues before they come up, to help try and

mitigate some of that time impact of an immigration permit being refused and then going to appeal. So, yes, while there are a number of appeals coming forward and it's not something new, we do see a regular stream of them coming through Executive Council. I take some comfort in the fact that we have not only strengthened the policies in place, made it clearer, made the checking processes clearer to improve the information that's coming as part of those appeals. There's also that improvement in the recruitment process to try and mitigate some against some of the challenges that those policies present. Thank you.

The Honourable Dean Dent

I'd like to thank my Honourable Colleague for his response and just say that I think the policy is an important and a beneficial one. The appeals process is obviously an important and beneficial one, and it's good to see that FIG are strengthening probably their employment procedure to have these questions asked at an earlier date. Thank you.

Mr Speaker

Any other Honourable Member wish to raise a question or comment on that Executive Council report?

The Honourable Jack Ford

Mr Speaker, I should have mentioned earlier, but I think in response to my Honourable Colleague MLA Goss on his question on the Sovereign Wealth Fund and the risks of, in future, potentially becoming cash rich and asset poor although I would argue there are some benefits to being cash rich.

I would hope that he would take some comfort in the fact that we are currently, well, in the early stages, in the middle in some cases of the most ambitious capital programme the Falklands has ever seen. Whilst that presents a great many challenges including the taking on of an amount of debt of a size the Falklands has not seen before, it puts a great deal of pressure on the Falklands, on the FIG system, and on our public finances. It will hopefully, once completed put us in a far better position than the one we currently are in. It will update and enhance some very key pieces of critical national infrastructure. Of course, there are still other areas that are in great need of attention. However, this will hopefully cover off those greatest areas of risks, namely the port, the power station, and more recently, housing. So, hopefully, that will put us in a much better situation certainly by the end of the life of this Assembly, and for the beginning of the life of the next Assembly. So when, if, and hopefully when we start receiving royalty income from hydrocarbons, when that is paid into the Sovereign Wealth Fund, we will already be in a

stronger position in infrastructure terms than we currently are. So, while I very much appreciate the risks he highlights of a more restrictive Sovereign Wealth Fund Policy, I think that the efforts and work we're putting in place now will hopefully mitigating some of the risks he is concerned about.

The Honourable Michael Goss

Thank you, Mr Speaker. Thank you, my Honourable Colleague Jack for bringing that bit of information through for us. The only reason that I actually bring this as a Member of thought process is simply down to the fact that we are, as you say, at a crucial point where we have the largest amount of debt that has ever been incurred. We also are in a position where we are taking on the most ambitious building project that this country has ever seen. However, we do have a propensity in our history from spending out, buying brand new things, building them up, and then leaving them to fall down over the subsequent 20-year period so I would like to see that we are moving ahead in breaking that cycle of process, and subsequently, that was my ask of the reasoning for the little bit of release of funds to ensure that we can continue, but breaking that cycle. Thank you.

The Honourable Dean Dent

I'm glad it's not just me asking the terrible questions. I think to sort of, I don't know, help you, help your worries Mr Goss. I think there's important work being done by FIG and certain directorates in the strengthening and creation of asset management plans, and following on from that, hopefully the National Infrastructure Plan. And I think it's important to note that the National Infrastructure Plan won't be a plan of future visionary capital infrastructure we might want, but will be a plan of what we have now, when it needs fixing, when we need to start paying for it, and when we need to start fixing it, so I think it's important to note that that work is being carried out, and hopefully will inform some future decision making in the capital programme.

The Honourable Michael Goss

I rise and thank my Honourable Colleague for his response.

Mr Speaker

Any other comments or questions?

The Honourable Jack Ford

Mr Speaker, because I didn't enjoy giving the summary enough, I decided to talk even more. I think that, which is very much stressed. Well, I very much accept the concerns raised by my Honourable Colleague MLA Goss, and completely understand why he raises them, particularly given all of the information that FIG provided to him over the last eight months. I think the key things on the establishment of the Sovereign Wealth Fund is around the protection for the long-term benefit of Falkland Islanders of those oil revenues, oil royalties when they come through.

I think we see there are far too many examples around the world of natural resource wealth being poorly managed to the detriment of local communities who should otherwise be benefiting from them, and I think we, as set out in the objectives that have been approved, hold in very high regard the aim to ensure we do protect those funds for the long-term benefit but not just for current generations. Well, of course, we want to see some benefit for those current generations mainly for the benefit of those future generations long before all of us have left this world. So, I think that's, well, of course, there are many discussions yet to be had on the details of how exactly the fund will operate and the policies that it will manage that those objectives of ensuring that long-term benefit and the careful management of those time-limited natural resource wealth is for the benefit of future generations, and I'd say we probably all agree that those objectives are the right ones and we will very keenly look to see that they are carried through to the final legislation once approved and the establishment of the fund and the management arrangements that surround it. So, while of course note the concerns and the points he raises, all very valid and for good reason. No surprise always would issue caution when looking at spending money, because I think with this, while yes, it presents an opportunity for great benefit with that comes an amount of risk, and we need to ensure that we protect it as much as possible. Thank you.

The Honourable Michael Goss

I give thanks to my Honourable Colleague. All points voted and noted. We'll move on.

Mr Speaker

The Honourable Jack Ford, you have no further reports on Exco? Thank you very much. We will move on.

Deputy Clerk of The Assembly

Portfolio Reports by the Honourable Cheryl Roberts – Trade, Industry and Mineral Resources

The Honourable Cheryl Roberts

Mr Speaker, I present my Portfolio update for Mineral Resources, FIDC, FITB, Stanley Services, FLH, FIMCo and Stanley Growers and I will apologise if this is a bit lengthy. I have tried to reduce it, but I hope I am not going to miss any salient points from each portfolio.

Mineral Resources

There are three main areas of work ongoing for offshore petroleum matters. The first of these is development of the updated regulatory framework. The new Assembly has passed the Offshore Petroleum (Environmental Impact Offsetting Trust) Ordinance 2026, creating an independent trust that will use offsetting payments to give out grants for environmental projects, and is now in the process of appointing its directors. The Offshore Minerals (Fees) Regulations 2026 have also been made, introducing regulatory fees for offshore petroleum operators. In addition, amendments have been made to the Offshore Minerals Ordinance 1994 to strengthen decommissioning provisions and allow for the use of Decommissioning Security Agreements. A model Decommissioning Security Agreement is in production and decommissioning information requests and notices have started to be served on the Sea Lion licencees.

Work has been ongoing on several other areas of legislative development, including proposed amendments to the Maritime (Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation Convention) (Amendment) Regulations 2019 to extend its requirements to offshore installations and proposed amendments to the Taxes Ordinance 1997 regarding petroleum valuation methodology. The Department has also been working on producing several regulatory guidance documents related to the next steps of the Sea Lion development.

The second main area of work is regulatory setup. In mid-August the department moved into its new offices on the Hillside estate. All 11 of the new posts created in the department have been advertised; five new members of staff have started and a further four have been appointed. A secondment from the UK's Health and Safety Executive has been secured to assist with the development of the new regulatory framework.

Departmental policies are being developed and implemented to ensure DMR functions as an effective regulator. A new and more secure file-sharing system has been implemented for the regulatory process. This is a necessity, ensuring the security of data and confidential information. The professional services framework will go out to advertisements shortly to provide the department with access to a wide range of technical experts. During April, Officers from DMR visited all three UK offshore petroleum regulators to get a better understanding of how they function and to discuss future support, including training opportunities.

The third area of work is exploitation preparedness, which has included monitoring compliance with, and discharge of the various conditions placed on the approval of the Sea Lion project. Other workstreams include enhancing the dangerous goods regime and developing a new approach to chemical management. The Department has also been tracking and supporting work being led by other directorates, including the Sovereign Wealth Fund, Local Content and the Stanley Airport upgrades as well as collaborating with DESIS to update FIG's Major Incident and Emergency Response Plans to ensure any offshore operator response plans interface effectively with the national response.

With regards to onshore minerals, gold exploration drilling commenced in the Goose Green area earlier this year and the department has been monitoring progress to ensure compliance with regulations and conditions.

Falkland Islands Development Corporation

In July, FIDC facilitated a visit from Valparaíso, Chile-based maritime transport company Easter Island Naviera, which met with more than a dozen local businesses, presented to the Chamber of Commerce Members, and engaged with local media. The visit was well received by the business community, and the company is considering a Punta Arenas/ Stanley sailing service commencing November 2026.

As part of Farmers Week 26, FIDC presented an update on its corporate plan 2024 -2029 to around 40 rural business association members. Feedback from the session will inform the next update of the plan. FIDC also hosted a basic Canva design workshop attended by 10 participants and ensured team representation at every Farmers' Week session.

At its most recent board meeting, FIDC reviewed the 2025-2026 financial year reporting that there were 286 new client enquiries between July 2025 and June 2026 up from 275 the previous year. Of these, 66% were from Stanley and 34% from Camp generating 401 enquiries across various support services. The most requested services were business advice with 87 enquiries, domestic thermal efficiency grants (43), social media and marketing advice (42), rural energy grants (42) and business loans (38).

FIDC also hosted its Annual Business Breakfast at the Malvina House Hotel in collaboration with the Falkland Islands Government (FIG) Careers Department. The event brought together 34 professionals from the public and private sector to share career insights with 17 students and 2 apprentices.

Falkland Islands Tourist Board

For the upcoming cruise season, current bookings suggest a potential total of around 82,000 cruise ship passengers, based on vessels operating at full passenger capacity. However, experience shows that ships rarely sail with the full complement of passengers,

and allowances must also be made for cancellations and itinerary changes, particularly those resulting from adverse weather conditions.

Last year, the forecast began at a similar level but ended with just over 65,000 due to weather cancellations.

The land-based tourism season is presently looking positive. We have the continued appeal of the Falkland Islands as a destination. No midweek flight of course, limits the possibility of short visits plus there is always the weather to take into account which is often problematic for visitors flying in and out of MPN extending or reducing their stay neither which is helpful to persons who have travelled so far and have to incur the additional expense.

There has been strong collaboration with personnel at Mount Pleasant, and we are pleased that a toilet facility is now being installed in the arrivals lounge. This is a particularly important improvement for passengers arriving on LATAM flights. The facility will also be accessible to passengers with disabilities and will include a baby changing area.

The Tour Guide Accreditation Scheme, which was introduced around 2006, and since its inception, 462 persons have become certified guides. This work continues to progress, with a further 36 participants enrolled in tour guide courses in September, and another 20 currently awaiting assessment.

The new finger pontoon has recently been surveyed with no significant issues identified. As you all will have seen, the two pontoons are currently out of the water on the public jetty undergoing routine maintenance are expected to be reinstated before the start of the cruise season. Replacement pontoons may well be required in the near future, designed to better accommodate simultaneous operation of two tender vessels and to meet the demands of increasing cruise activity.

Stanley Services Limited

Global fuel markets remain highly volatile in both supply and price due to ongoing Middle East tensions, and we continue to feel the effects. When tensions escalated in March, we saw diesel sales surge to nearly 1.7 million litres compared with a monthly average of just over 1 million litres.

Stanley Services continues to work with FIG and partners on the new dock and fuel infrastructure which will enable diesel imports and increase future bunkering capacity through improved flow rates and the ability to bunker multiple vessels simultaneously.

The service station forecourt upgrade is nearing completion with only some groundworks remaining. The new facility increases storage capacity to 60,000 litres of diesel, 20,000 litres of petrol reducing the frequency of replenishment.

Stanley Services would like to remind customers to check fuel nozzles carefully: black for diesel, green for petrol, and blue for kerosene because there have been a couple of little errors.

In June, Goodwin Limited completed three apartment blocks for Stanley Services, adding 10 new accommodation units at a time when housing remains a significant issue across Stanley, and that is very warmly welcomed within the community

Falkland Landholdings Corporation

Planning for the FLH shearing season is well underway, with shearing due to begin at North Arm in September, starting with pre-lamb ewes.

FLH again participated in the School Careers Day. Work Experience Week will be held in November, providing students with greater exposure to seasonal farming activities, and placements have been offered across FLH farms. The FLH agriculture apprentice will also travel to England for further training.

FIMCo has been advised of FLH estimated sheep numbers for the 2026-2027 export season, currently projected at 24,000, subject to refinement as the season progresses.

Preparations for the tourist seasons are progressing well. Tourism remains a growing part of FLH operations, supported by the new permanent Tourism Manager role, and bookings are encouraging.

The FLH General Manager and Woolco Manager attended the IWTO Congress in China in June 2026, meeting existing wool buyers and developing relationships with potential new buyers of Falkland Islands wool.

All FLH farms recently passed RWS internal audits with only one minor non-compliance, maintaining RWS accreditation for around six years and supporting best practice with traceability and wool sales.

Sheep genetic improvement remains a key priority, focusing on increased wool weights, lower micron, improved worm resistance, and resilient profitable sheep. A July visit by the General Manager to Anderson Rams has strengthened collaboration ahead of next year's AI programme.

All 2025-2026 wool has been sold, and recent prices increase provide a positive outlook for the 2026-2027 season, and that is good news as well.

Falkland Islands Meat Company Limited

With the exception of two containers due to arrive shortly, all 2025-2026 project shipments have been received by customers. The GM and sales agent visited UK

customers in June, with further customer visits by the sales agent in August. The general manager also met UK suppliers.

Planned visits to the Middle East customers and Gulf food trades show have been postponed until 2027 due to continued regional instability.

Feedback on 2025-2026 products has been positive, with only two minor food safety or quality complaints both resolved promptly.

Demand for 2026-2027 production remains strong with initial discussions indicating price increases in line with forecasts. Contributing factors include market changes, protein availability in UK, EU, and improved BRC and Halal accreditation.

Farm visits are planned for August and September, including West Falklands, with some suppliers already consulted at recent events.

Export 2026/27

A key UK customer has expanded into Northern England and Scotland, and it is seeking increased supply from FIMCO. EU demands remain strong despite previous delays and quota restrictions. Middle East customers remain interested although offered prices remain below UK/EU. Salted hide production is under review following market improvements but is unlikely for 2026/27 due to staffing and space constraints. Future investment may be required there.

Trading terms are being strengthened to improve cash flow through fast payment receipt.

Livestock pricing for 2026/27 will be confirmed at the next Board meeting and is expected to improve on 2025/26 prices.

The greater >2mm fat content sheep trial was successful, with 2026/27 orders significantly above last season, and efforts underway to improve supplier returns.

An early November export season start is close to being confirmed, pending final supplier numbers.

Operations

Sundries and packagings have been ordered with plastics costs up 16%, seasonal staffing has been finalised, with most positions filled and many returning staff.

Maintenance work continues with refrigeration power and remaining key concerns.

Within the local market, supply of young farm select mutton continues with positive customer feedback. Beef supply has been actively promoted through social and local media. The recent BSWG day at Walker Creek was well attended and generated positive

supplier engagement. While supply gaps will continue in the short term, increasing supplier participation provides a positive long-term outlook.

In partnership with FIDC, marketing of farm select ovine and beef products has begun, including retail promotions, in-store demonstrations, recipe cards, and website integration to improve customer engagement.

The environmental survey has been completed and circulated back to stakeholders for feedback. Dive surveys identified no additional concerns at the waste site despite increased production during the last export season. Waste volumes reduced by approximately 20T due to project changes and export requirements.

Stanley Growers Ltd

Stanley Growers Limited continues to play an important part in supporting food security, local employment, and the supply of fresh produce throughout the community. Since the Falkland Islands Government acquired the business in 2023 as part of the port project land requirements, significant efforts have been made to stabilise operations, strengthen governance arrangements, and improve working conditions for the staff. The business remains a key contributor to local food production and retail supply, serving both public and commercial customers across the islands and helping to enhance the resilience of the local food supply chain. Food security is vitally important to the islands, and work continues ensuring that as much fresh produce as is reasonably practical is for sale throughout. Fruit and vegetable as all are aware, is again being flowing in and on LATAM, that was a slow process to recommence from FIG purchasing the business. However, now that it is in place, there is confidence it will remain.

While Stanley Growers has made progress operationally, it continues to face challenges associated with ageing infrastructure, limited working capital, and recent trading conditions disruption arising from land changes linked to the port project, and the increased competition from imported produce has placed pressure on the business. In supporting the subvention at Executive Council, this was done. This has protected the government's investment and ensures a reliable local food supply while longer-term ownership arrangements are progressed.

Government's preferred long-term strategy remains to return Stanley Growers Limited to private sector ownership whilst retaining a strategic interest through a golden share. This approach seeks to attract private investment, support future growth and infrastructure development, and maintain safeguards around food security in our islands. In the meantime, maintaining a stable and viable business is considered essential both for local supply resilience and for securing the best possible future for the company, its staff, and its customers.

Officers are currently working to expedite this process with the return to Exco with draft Expressions of Interest documents in November, with a view to launching the EOI process before the end of the calendar year. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr Speaker

Any Honourable Member wish to raise a comment or question?

The Honourable Dean Dent

I thank my Honourable Colleague for our comprehensive portfolio update. I just like to congratulate the teams at both Stanley Services and Goodwin on the construction of their new rental properties, and I can personally attest to their quality in both construction and furnishing, and it's nice to see private companies assisting in helping combat the current housing shortage. I'd also like to thank the whole team at Stanley Growers and their continued work in what is an ageing facility, and particularly the new Manager and her commitment to ironing out some of the kinks that are in the business whilst FIG are still owners, so thank you.

The Honourable Cheryl Roberts

Thank you my Honourable Colleague Dean Dent. Yes, in regards to Stanley Services, that was a welcomed new structure for a block of flats in Stanley. There are other companies, they are doing the same, and I think that's very good for the economy, and very good for you know for the problem that we do have with not enough accommodation, especially for our young people returning to the Islands. I have seen inside the flats and just before they were completed, and they're to a very high standard, and they were completed very quickly as well, so that's very commendable to Stanley Services. In regards to Stanley Growers, yes, the new manager Leona Vidal is doing a splendid job. She really is, you know, she's got an uphill battle there. I mean, it is very ageing. It's not just the structure, it's the actual outside as well. You know the road, and you know what people have to, what greets them as they get out of their vehicles, and this kind of weather. It's just a sea of mud, and that's not splendid for anybody to work in. She is doing a good job. I've been to visit her recently and she's hoping to improve conditions down there further with some facilities for staff, which there is none at the moment, so it's an ongoing work in progress. Thank you.

Mr Speaker

Any other comment or question on that report?

The Deputy Clerk of The Assembly

The Honourable Roger Spink

Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, my portfolio report for Development and Commercial Services

DCS Central

Responsibility for DCS has now formally passed to Steve Dent, formerly Deputy Director, following Becky Clark's move to the Secretariat as Strategic Projects Director. The Directorate remains focused on delivering services that support economic growth, community wellbeing and the long-term development of the Falkland Islands.

A key focus for the Directorate moving forward will be strengthening local content and procurement strategies across government to maximise opportunities and value within the Islands.

Aviation Services

Following the retirement of Morgan Goss after almost 43 years of dedicated service at FIGAS, we are pleased to welcome Duane Stewart as FIGAS General Manager. Duane brings extensive aviation experience and joins at a challenging time for the service.

The initial FIGAS Review report has been received and is presently undergoing review by Officers, it will then be considered by MLAS in due course. The review provides an opportunity to consider how this vital service can best continue to meet the needs of the Islands in the years ahead while maintaining the high levels of safety and reliability expected by passengers.

Meanwhile, *Tango Sierra*, the newest addition to the FIGAS fleet after many delays, remains on track to arrive later this year. The arrival of the aircraft will further strengthen fleet resilience and support continued delivery of this service.

I would also like to thank the community for their patience during the winter reduced flying-hours programme and the disruption this can sometimes cause. The programme was an important part of managing operational pressures and ensuring the long-term sustainability of the service.

Preparations continue for the return of helicopter services to Stanley Aerodrome later this year in order to support oil and gas developments. Work is being undertaken with a range of stakeholders to ensure the necessary facilities and operational arrangements are in place ahead of the commencement of operations.

Fox Bay

At Fox Bay the power generation and distribution replacement project is currently progressing within the settlement.

We are also delighted that a young family will soon relocate to Fox Bay, supporting the permanent move of a key Agricultural Department role into Camp. This is a positive development for the community and helps to support the long-term sustainability of rural settlements.

Planning

Alongside the determination of planning applications, administration of the development management process and delivery of building control services, the Planning & Building Services team monitors development activity across the Islands and contributes to discussions on future land use, infrastructure requirements and sustainable growth.

Completion of the next Annual Monitoring Report of the Development Plan will provide the evidence base to inform consideration of whether a review of the Plan is necessary and, if so, the scope and focus of any future review.

Leisure Services

The impending opening of the new National Sports Facility marks a major step forward for sport and recreation in the Falkland Islands. The facility includes an all-weather pitch, climbing wall, artificial ice surface, multi-use sports courts and flexible community spaces.

The facility has been designed to increase participation across a broad range of sporting and recreational activities and will provide opportunities for people of all ages and abilities. It is expected to support clubs, schools and community organisations whilst creating opportunities for new activities that have not previously been available in the Falkland Islands.

This impressive project has been driven by the National Sports Council and delivered through collaboration between FIG, the National Sports Council and private sponsors, creating lasting benefits for the community and helping to support healthier and more active lifestyles for future generations. I have no doubt that despite the challenges faced in delivery of this project it will enhance the quality of life for our community for generations to come and is an example of what our community can achieve when we pull together.

Courts

The Court Service provides support throughout the year across a broad range of responsibilities, ensuring the effective administration of justice in the Falkland Islands. Head of Courts, Eirian Rees, provides strong leadership and support to her team, and we are pleased to have welcomed Dunja Markovic as Courts Legal Officer. Courts work relies on several dedicated volunteers whose contribution is invaluable to the successful operation of the justice system. Their commitment and professionalism ensure that the service continues to meet the needs of the judiciary, legal professionals and the wider community.

Government House

DCS supports the Governor and team at Government House. Alongside maintaining the estate and grounds, the Directorate supports a range of official events and activities held throughout the year.

Government House remains an important public asset and a focal point for many ceremonial, community and visiting engagements across the Islands.

Major Contracts

The Directorate maintains oversight of several key government contracts, including telecommunications, coastal shipping, and television and radio services amongst others. These contracts remain essential to the Islands' infrastructure, connectivity and delivery of services to the community.

The management of these contracts involves ongoing engagement with service providers to ensure contractual obligations are being met, standards are maintained and services continue to evolve in response to changing community and business needs. This work often takes place behind the scenes but remains a critical function of the Directorate.

Looking Ahead

DCS remains committed to supporting economic growth, community development and the delivery of high-quality public services, whilst ensuring the Islands are well positioned to seize future opportunities. Through its close working relationships with the FIG/MOD Joint Project Officer, DCS continues collaborative business working with BFSI and CBF's wider team.

With significant developments continuing across a range of sectors, including infrastructure, tourism, energy and natural resources, the Directorate plays a central role in enabling sustainable growth and supporting the delivery of Government priorities across the Falkland Islands. Thank you.

Mr Speaker

Is there any Honourable Member wish to comment or raise a question on that report?

The Honourable Stacy Bragger

Mr Speaker, I'd like to thank my Honourable Colleague for his report. He mentioned at the start of his report local content and procurement strategy. I know that's an issue in terms of the hydrocarbons industry that he's raised in this House. I was wondering if you had any more detail of the current status of that piece of work and when the Chamber of Commerce and private sector will be able to have input and discuss for that and MLAs generally.

The Honourable Roger Spink

I will defer to the chief executive maybe to give a further update.

The Honourable Chief Executive

There we go. Mr Speaker, Honourable Members. Just we've been waiting a little while to get some feedback from some sectors of industry. We've only just received it in the last week. Now that we've got that, I think it will be turned around quite quickly and then come out to the other organisations that have been waiting to be engaged. So, I'm hopeful that it will move quite swiftly over the next month or so. Thank you.

Mr Speaker

Any other comment or question on that report? No. I thank both of the Honourable Members for their portfolio reports.

The Deputy Clerk of The Assembly**Motion for Adjournment****The Honourable Chief Executive**

Mr Speaker, I beg to move that this House stands adjourned.

The Honourable Jack Ford

Mr Speaker, I normally defer to my Honourable colleague to my left to impart historical nuggets on the Assembly but it's my turn this month. So Mr Speaker, this Saturday, the 29th of August will mark 180 years since the first meeting of this Island's Legislature, the

Legislative Council of the Falkland Islands and their dependencies, which first sat in 1846 and from which this Assembly directly descends.

That first council was a modest affair, appointed by the Governor rather than elected, a handful of men sat in a probably small room, remote community at the far edge of the South Atlantic. Yet from that beginning, runs an unbroken line to the House in which we sit today. In that 180 years since the Falklands have grown in people, in confidence, and in the maturity of our institutions, an appointed Council became in time, an Assembly whose Members were elected and chosen by the people they serve.

As generation after generation of Falkland Islanders took the running of their own affairs into their own hands, taking the islands from a colony to a self-governing and self-funding overseas territory. We remain, by our own free and settled choice, a British people, proud of our heritage and of the Parliamentary traditions we have inherited and made our own over the course of the last 180 years, and we hold as firmly as ever the right to determine our own future.

To all those who have served these Islands across the years, Members, Clerks, Speakers, and Officers alike, this House owes you a debt of gratitude, and we honour them by carrying their work forward with the same quiet confidence that has brought us thus far.

And Mr Speaker, I am sure I can speak for all Members of this House and the previous House and the Government in passing on my thanks and various wishes, to the Deputy Commander of British Forces, Group Captain Adele Stratton. I've had the great pleasure of working with Adele since her arrival in the Falklands, not only in her capacity as Deputy Commander, but also during numerous meetings of the Executive Council and of this House that she has attended, something which I'm sure you've approached with great joy, listening to the many, many, many hours of discussion and debate in both of those settings. I can say with great confidence that the Deputy Commander has made an enormous contribution to the enhancement of the relationship between His Majesty's Armed Forces and the Falkland Islands, and the ongoing support and service towards the defence of the Falklands, all of which we are incredibly grateful.

Adele's positive approach to the challenges and opportunities of operating the Falklands has been greatly welcomed by all. It will leave incredibly big shoes to fill and will be greatly missed. We wish you the very best with all future endeavours. Hope that you depart the Falklands with fond memories and in the knowledge that you will be very much welcome should you wish to return in the future. Thank you very much. I support the Motion.

The Honourable Michael Goss

Mr. Speaker, in rising to support this Motion, I would like to give my thanks to my Honourable Colleagues on ExCo, and particularly my Honourable Colleague MLA Ford. For I give thanks in regards to the ExCo summaries that come to us now, and in allowing us as the Legislative Assembly to have the opportunity to raise questions and to bring our thoughts and processes across the table.

Obviously, our comments to the House are also fundamental in the ports of good governance. So, I would like to state, and I do believe that this is a system that has never been implemented before. So, I would like to give thanks to all who have allowed this to come into being and show that it is actually working, the system is working as we want it to be.

Also, in closing, I would like to give voice to the current situation with the current fishing season, and the situation that we are currently affected by, in one way or another, we are all affected in what happens as the seasons ebb and flow. And ultimately, from the efforts made by industry, be that in direct employment, from the provisions that are put around, the distribution, the shipping, and so on and so forth. It all contributes into the wider funds that form up the backbone of the revenue stream that comes into FIG.

This season has proven highly challenging, with catches of Loligo trending to the lower end of averages, and this combined with increase in hake catches in particular has meant that we are now in a bit of a position where we are trying to scrabble around a bit to try and find out ways in which we can actually continue forwards.

I would just like to say that for myself, not only as the portfolio holder, I would like to personally thank everyone inside industry and the departments who are trying their absolute level best to mitigate the ongoing situation. And yeah, I would just like to say yes, we're struggling a bit, but we're going to come out on the other side of it. So, thank you very much. Mr Speaker. I support the Motion.

Mr Speaker

Any other Member wish to speak?

The Honourable Stacy Bragger

Thank you Mr Speaker. I'd like to echo my Honourable Colleague Jack Ford's excellent words about the anniversary of Legislature Assembly. Hopefully, we'll have, we'll see

where we are in 180 years' time, and I would like to pass on also echo his comments regarding the Deputy Commander and wish her all the best of her next chapter.

And I would like also to say, obviously here in the Falklands, we have a deep connection with the Nepalese people through our large relationship with Gurkhas personnel, dating back from 1982 through to today. I'd like to say my thoughts with the people affected by the devastating floods that took place in Nepal and Tibet this week. Thank you.

The Honourable Lewis Clifton OBE

Mr Speaker, if I may, I just like to associate myself with the warm retiring remarks that MLA Ford extended to Group Captain Adele as Deputy Commander. I found to know her in another place before assuming a seat in this House. I would just like to personally thank her for her contribution over a tour of duty. I think, we all take, perhaps sometimes at a whim, our security and our safety. I know she delivers some of the front line of that, and perhaps noise to some is not particularly welcome. But for those of us who are flesh and blood of the Falklands, the sound of freedom is absolute, and long may it continue, and I wish you well in your next posting. Thank you.

The Honourable Cheryl Roberts

Mr Speaker, Honourable colleagues, I'd like to express thanks to Adele also. We haven't known each other long, but I think we've had a few conversations aside from sitting in this House occasionally and sitting in ExCo.

Just to add on to Honourable Michael Goss's comments on fishery, obviously everybody is aware of my position within the fishery, and you know what I'm about to say is not a conflict of interest at all. I would just like to add that your comments will be very much appreciated, Michael. It's going to be a very difficult time for those ahead, not just for the people in our community, but as I remind people on many occasions, you know, this is not just about us. This is far flung, and there are 16 vessels out there with 50 and 60 plus personnel on board, and their families. So, whatever happens now, and how we deal with the problems that we have, with climate change, with water temperatures, with the influx of hake, with the hake being a predator eating the loligo, the only thing I can say is that we must get our science work together, and we must find out what is going on for the benefit of these islands and everybody else that is affected in Spain and elsewhere. Thank you very much.

Group Captain Adele Straton

I would just like to say thank you very much for the support both from the MLAs past and present. This job has been absolutely outstanding. I've spent two years in the Falklands.

I've loved every minute. I would be delighted to come back if they promote me. And I wish my successor all the best. Group Captain Hannah French has taken over from me. But in 33 years in the RAF, this has been undoubtedly the best job I have ever done so thank you very much to everybody.

Mr Speaker

May I add my good wishes for your future.

Honourable Members, that concludes the business of the House for today. The House stands adjourned accordingly.