Minister for the Environment



19-21 Broad Street | St Helier Jersey | JE2 4WE

Constable Jackson Chair, EHI Panel BY EMAIL

26 April 2022

Dear Mike

Response to Panel's Comments on P.29/2022

I am writing to provide a response to the Panel's recommendations outlined in the <u>comments</u> paper presented on 20 April 2022 ahead of P.29/2022 returning to the Assembly for debate.

Recommendation one: The Minister for the Environment should declare during the States' debate whether it is his intention to sign a Ministerial Decision before he leaves office to request Government Officials draft appropriate guidelines to support the application and enforcement of the draft Regulations, if adopted. The purpose and aim of which would be to provide clarity and to aid the pro-active policing and processing of offences.

I would agree that it is important to have the appropriate guidelines when new legislation is approved by the Assembly. I have instructed my officers to work with project partners to produce the appropriate guidelines, however, a ministerial decision is not needed for this, as it is part of the normal approach.

Recommendation two: The Government of Jersey should ensure that there is consultation with the Comité des Chefs de Police regarding practical considerations for the policing of the draft Regulations, if adopted, and what additional funding and/or resourcing may be required to ensure that the law is appropriately enforced.

Agree; I would welcome further discussion with the Chefs de Police on a much broader spectrum of environmental enforcement, and not just these specific regulations. I have instructed my officers to meet with the Comité des Chefs de Police to this end.

Recommendation three: The Government of Jersey should continue to work closely with the Blue Marine Foundation and Société Jersiaise and in seeking local public feedback on the proposed signage during the design phase to ensure that it will attract the attention of and engage with members of the public. Consideration should also be given to making the signage easy to read, colourful and engaging for young children. The desired aim of which would be to raise educational awareness which in turn is likely to lead to a higher level of compliance with the law.

Agree; Marine Resources have a good relationship with Blue and the Societe Jersiaise and consultation is already underway and will continue.

Recommendation four: The Government of Jersey should also give further consideration to the provision of multi-lingual signage and interpretation boards, given the nature of the Bay as a tourism hotspot. This should be incorporated as might be appropriate within the current approved plans for signage, or through seeking further planning approval

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Agree; consultation is already underway and will continue. As the Panel's comments note, project partners are already working on this, and a planning application has been approved for the provision of interpretation signage and the snorkel trail.

I trust the above responses are satisfactory and I would like to extend my thanks to the Panel for supporting the Regulations.

Yours sincerely

Deputy John Young

Minister for the Environment

D +44 (0)1534 440540

E j.young@gov.je