

STATES OF JERSEY



FORT REGENT: ESTABLISHMENT OF A WORKING GROUP

Lodged au Greffe on 3rd November 2009
by the Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel

STATES GREFFE

PROPOSITION

THE STATES are asked to decide whether they are of opinion –

to request the Minister for Education, Sport and Culture –

- (a) to establish and lead a working group, consisting of representatives from the Education, Sport and Culture Department, Jersey Property Holdings, the Jersey Heritage Trust, the Economic Development Department and the Planning and Environment Department, in order to ensure collaboration between these key parties, with the aim of producing a cohesive and realistic plan for the future development of Fort Regent; and
- (b) to take the necessary steps to form the working group immediately and to provide quarterly updates to all States members of its progress regarding the formulation of a development plan for Fort Regent.

EDUCATION AND HOME AFFAIRS SCRUTINY PANEL

REPORT

The Panel found during the review (Fort Regent, S.R.11/2009, presented to the States on 2nd November 2009) that several departments have key rôles in the maintenance and development of Fort Regent. However, currently there is no structured relationship between these departments to provide a cohesive approach to the Fort. This, the Panel believed, was one of the key stumbling blocks as to why nothing had, and has yet, been agreed with regards to future plans.

The Panel believe that the formation of a working group as set out above will provide a platform for decisions to be made about key issues relating to Fort Regent such as; access, demolition of the closed Swimming Pool, improvements to the historical interpretation of the site, tidying up the ramparts. The group's awareness of these issues should ensure that they will be addressed in any future town planning, or that it will be possible for intermediate decisions to be made without having to wait for the production of a Master Plan. The Panel is convinced that one of the reasons many of the previous plans were not implemented was that the costs frightened people, which in turn lead to inaction. It should be possible to progress some matters incrementally without undermining a Master Plan.

Financial and manpower implications

This Proposition does not hold any implications for the financial or manpower resources of the States. The suggested Working Party would be managed by existing staff and within existing resources.

For the avoidance of doubt, the proposition is not related to the actual work that the Panel has recommended in the Report. The Panel accepts that there might be significant financial implications in taking forward any recommendations but those would have to be addressed in due course in future spending plans.