



NORFOLK ISLAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
14TH NILA HANSARD – 18 SEPTEMBER 4 AUGUST 2013

SPEAKER Good Morning Honourable Members, we commence with the Prayer of the Legislative Assembly.

PRAYER

Almighty God we humbly beseech Thee to vouchsafe Thy blessing upon this House, direct and prosper our deliberations to the advancement of Thy glory and the true welfare of the people of Norfolk Island, Amen.

LEAVE

There is no leave required for anyone this morning. We move to condolences. Mr Evans please.

CONDOLENCES

SPEAKER

Honourable Members ~~are~~ I firstly ask if there are any condolences today. Mr Evans

MR EVANS

Mr Speaker it is with regret that this House records the passing of Peter Wayne Peapells, Gilbert Wallace Jackson, Ada Diana Amy Forsyth and Vanda Buffett

Peter Wayne Peapells was born in Whangarei, New Zealand in July 1949. He was the youngest son of Daphne and Clive and brother to Roland. Around age 13, his family moved to Auckland. Pete left school and commenced an apprenticeship as a builder, and worked at United Concrete after completing his apprenticeship. In the early seventies Pete came to Norfolk to work as a builder and here he met Sybil. They moved to Auckland with Booda in tow. When Pete and Sybil married in November 1974 Booda was finally permitted to return home. Pete was elated when Simon was born in April 1975 and a few years later Pete, Simon and Sybil shifted to Karaka where Pete found a new vocation in dairy farming. This eventually led the young family to Gordonton where together they worked for Charlie Hoy and formed a strong friendship which remains to this day. In 1986 Pete and his family moved to Norfolk, and soon afterwards Pete and Wally launched OutAndAbout, a company laying floor coverings, with occasional fishing and other skills. Their fishing career escalated to a dingy called Tin. Pete and Wally shared many a good time on a water. They were great mates and inseparable. Later Pete and Simon upgraded their boat to "dar boet" and nothing would get Pete more excited than a day on the water fishing with Simon. Family was all important and all encompassing for Pete and he took every opportunity to return to New Zealand to visit his mum, dad and brother. After his dad's passing Pete's main priority was ensuring his mum was well provided for at all times. Another great love was the arrival of his two grandsons William and Liam. Pete would pick the two of them up and drive them from one end of Norfolk to the other. He collected them from playcentre or

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt

Formatted

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: Not at 3.5 cm + 4 cm

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 4 cm

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 6.35 cm

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 6.35 cm

Formatted: Font: Arial, 11 pt

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: Arial, 11 pt

Witwits and took them to the garden where he would share his love and knowledge of gardening with them, or to Bumby for hi-his, or to play in the rock pools. Pete was always generous and after a day on the water or in the garden, he would deliver either fish or veggies, to family and friends, have a yarn and move on. Pete's philosophy was "the joy was in the giving". As a proud and patriotic New Zealander Pete would always defend his home country no matter what subject was being discussed, but particularly sport, be it NRL, Rugby Union, Cricket. Whatever the Kiwis were playing, Pete would be encouraging them 100 percent. His skills as a carpet layer were well known throughout the Island community and no job was too big or too small. Every job was performed with the same level of care and commitment, and was approached with a clear understanding of what needed to be done and how long it would take. Pete completely embraced the Norfolk Island way of life and while he always considered himself a New Zealander first, his generosity, his love of life, and his ability to make even a stranger feel completely welcome showed that he was also a true Norfolk Islander. To his wife Sybil, his son Simon and his wife Michelle, his two grandsons William and Liam and his many friends this House extends its deepest sympathy. May he rest in peace.

Gilbert Wallace Jackson was (quote) an Australian born in Norfolk Island (unquote) in May 1920. Gillie had three siblings all of whom have predeceased him, brothers Neville and Douglas, and sister Gladys. They grew up in Kingston, living firstly in the OMB compound until their eviction due to the buildings being uninhabitable. The family then moved to Munnas where Gillie lived until the age of 17 when, having saved the six pounds fare he shipped out to Sydney on the MV Morinda. The year was 1937 and he didn't return to Norfolk Island until 1946, following his discharge from the navy, and then only stayed for three weeks. Returning to Sydney Gillie worked on the waterfront for some 20 years; representing his fellow workers in the union movement and rising to the position of vice-president of the Sydney Branch of the Waterside Workers Federation. Gillie had joined the Royal Australian Navy for the war effort in 1939. He served on the HMAS Bendigo a corvette which among other duties and patrols, saw active service in the waters of New Guinea during 1942, bearing the brunt of the Japanese drive southwards. In 1943 Gillie was transferred to the HMAS Shropshire a cruiser which formed part of the Australian Squadron Task Force 74, for active operations in the northward sweep against the Japanese including the seizure of the Admiralty Islands and the Humboldt Bay operations. He often spoke of the intense fear instilled by the Japanese kamikaze raining down on the task force. He discharged from the RAN in 1946 and soon after married Ethel Hunter, a union which produced his daughter Faye. In 1968 Gillie was drawn back to his beloved island, arriving with his then wife Nell and son Doug on the MV Talagi and taking up temporary residence with his old friend Harold Adams in Cascade while his home in Collins Head Road was being built. Gillie undertook a variety of jobs over the next number years; groundsman at the school, working the bar at the RSL and fencing, often with Dave South. Gillie was supported by Nell in every aspect of his life until her death in 1990. In late 1992 he married his long-time friend and fellow socialist Carol Adams who remained his companion and supporter until her death in 2001. Gillie was very interested in politics, both local and Australian. He was a political activist and active trade unionist and a member of the ALP for many years. He openly and actively supported the working class in both Australia and Norfolk Island and was particularly keen on improving the lot of Norfolk Island workers and lower income earners, whether they be residents or temporary employees. In 1979 he found a means by which he could represent and express his views and he successfully stood for election in the inaugural Legislative Assembly of Norfolk Island. He recontested in 1982 and again in May 1983, almost topping the polls. His reward was to be commissioned as the Minister for Immigration and Lands a position he held until his retirement from politics in 1985 due to ill-health. He was in his element as a Member of the Assembly. He gave fearless voice to his concerns for the lower/middle income earners and consistently and vigorously took up challenge to the government of the day. He brought to Norfolk Island a brand of robust politics and activism that Norfolk had not previously experienced but which Gillie regarded as essential in identifying with and representing ones constituents. In 1985 he was awarded an AM in the Order of Australia for services to the community. It was a fitting award and one which he cherished.

Despite his serious side, he was a vibrant and charismatic individual. Following Carol's death in 2001 Gillie relied increasingly more on help from friends and family, and in his later years this was also provided by his former daughter-in-law Helen, after Gillie found himself on the verandah at the hospital. Despite a small stroke suffered some 30 years ago Gillie maintained his faculties right through to his death. To Faye and Doug, to their families including eleven grandchildren and many great grandchildren this House extends its deepest sympathy. May he rest in peace.

Formatted: Font: Arial, 11 pt

Ada Diana Amy Forsyth, affectionately known as Dinah, was born in September 1923 at the family home in Ryde. Dinah was two weeks off reaching her 90th Birthday when she passed away. Dinah was the youngest of four brothers and six sisters who have all predeceased her. Her father George in younger days was a dancing teacher and he taught all his children to waltz at an early age. Dinah continued to take dance classes every week once earning a wage which she did at age 14, when she left school to go to work and with her first wages Dinah brought material and earned the privilege of using her mother's treadle Singer sewing machine. Dinah went on to make many outfits over the years. At 14 Dinah also met Bill Forsyth, the man she was going to spend the rest of her life with. They married in 1944 at St. Anne's Church, Ryde and within two years their son Graham was born and thirteen months later their daughter Pamela. Bill worked as a Master Baker for many years with Dinah working alongside him building their life together as a family. In 1968 Pamela came to Norfolk for her honeymoon. Borry Evans made the suggestion to Pamela that Bill and Dinah should come to Norfolk Island and buy the 'Little Brick Oven Bakery' in Burglars Lane. In June 1970, Dinah, Bill and Graham Forsyth moved to Norfolk and did just that. With Bill and Graham managing it between them Dinah sourced her own Business ideas and bought 'Hetta' Health Food Shop. This proved to be another little success story. Due to illness Bill retired, and Graham mastered on with the bakery. Dinah sold her business to retire alongside Bill and for many years they travelled, seeing much of the world. Dinah was very passionate about her bowls as was Bill. She was a regular member of the Norfolk Island Bowling Club and represented Norfolk on many occasions, making friends along the way. Dinah and Bill loved Emily Bay, they swam regularly and enjoyed watching their grand kids and great grand kids swim and play in the sand. Sadly Bill passed away in 2001. Dinah kept herself active, filling her nights watching tennis and days knitting jumpers for the children of Africa, attending 'White Oaks' and when the weather was nice religiously visiting Emily Bay. Sadly her health grew worse over the past two years. To Graeme and Pamela, to their families and to Dinah's many friends this House extends its deepest sympathy. May she rest in peace.

Formatted: Font: Arial, 11 pt

Vanda Marianna Buffett was born in Lithuania. She survived World War II moving between Lithuania and the Polish/German borders. Following the war when Vanda was about 12, she with her parents and separately her elder brother Alfred migrated to Perth in Western Australia. Her brother has predeceased her. Vanda trained as a nurse at Royal Perth Hospital for her general training where she was awarded the most outstanding nurse of the year in her final exams. She undertook her midwifery training at Womens Hospital in Melbourne and subsequently trained in child welfare and Infant Health. She was a triple certificated Nursing Sister. Her places of work included Cocos Island where she met Charles Ivens Potts Buffett, Administrator of Cocos Island at that time. They were married in Sydney and Vanda returned to Cocos as the Administrator's wife. Vanda met Morgje Jowett in Cocos and commenced a lifelong friendship. Vanda loved the life in Cocos and later Christmas Island. Those special years included the arrival of their only child, Charles John (Chico) Buffett. When Potts retired the family returned to live in Norfolk Island. In 1985 they tragically lost their adored Chico in a car accident when he was home from school to celebrate his 16th birthday. The years that followed were not always easy for Vanda but she enjoyed her tapestry, her garden, cooking, fishing, playing mah-jong, cards, chess and bridge, including tutoring those new to the game. Vanda loved to read. Along with these Vanda made many kind and special friends who were always welcome in her home. Vanda was a kind and caring lady to so many and in turn, her friends were kind and caring to her, as her health failed. Vanda

Formatted: Font: Arial, 11 pt

loved to travel and explore and had many stories to tell. She was an intelligent and worldly lady. To Vanda's family and many friends, both here and overseas, this House extends its deepest sympathy. May she rest in peace. Thank you Mr Speaker.

~~It is with regret that this House records the passing of **Lynette May Sheridan**, affectionately known as Bub. Born in March 1965 and raised on Norfolk Island, she was the daughter of Christine and Warren Sheridan. Lynette was the youngest of five children, sister to Deb, Tim, Martyn and Sam. As a child she was close to her older brothers and considered herself a tom boy, playing outside in their playground of Ball Bay, having adventures with their cousins and the animals and spending summers at the beach. Lynette loved horses and as a child she learned to ride well. She loved spending time with her dad and was happiest when feeding the animals. Lynette did well at school and enjoyed competing on Sports Day for her Norfolk House. By 1978 most of the older children had moved out of home and Lynette moved to Sydney with her Mother. They settled in the eastern suburbs and Lynette attended Randwick Girls High where she quickly made friends and developed her own independence. Lynette loved the fast life in Sydney but her heart brought her home many times. She had four children and they made her extremely happy. Ngairé first in 1982 then Jesse ten years later. He formed a close relationship with his Mother and became her rock. During one of her trips back to Norfolk she rekindled a childhood romance and was married and had her third child Jenna. This was one of the happiest times of her life. Finally Jonah came along with his kind eyes and big heart just like his Mother. Lynette was a wonderful aunty to seventeen nieces and nephews. She was generous and would give even, when she herself had little. In the course of her life Lynette had many jobs including working at the post office, cooking with her Mother and cooking at the hospital. Lynette battled many challenging life experiences. In 2001 she enrolled in TAFE to use her own experience to help others and became a drug and alcohol worker. She worked successfully in her career for many years and helped many people who suffered from similar problems as her. This is when her kind and compassionate nature was at its best. Lynette had a fun loving nature and she enjoyed spending the day at the beach and then going home to enjoy an evening with her many friends just as she also enjoyed having a good chat over a cuppa and many nights were spent with a pot luck dinner. Lynette always saw the best in people and formed many friendships over the years. She will be remembered as being young at heart, a caring, free spirited and loving daughter, sister, aunty, friend and mother. To Ngairé, Jesse, Jenna, Jonah, Christine, Deb, Tim and Sam and their families, and to her many friends, this House extends its deepest sympathy. May she rest in peace.~~

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left

~~It is with regret that this House records the passing of **Joan Irwin**, a lady who has loved the Island since she and her late husband, Commander Peter Irwin, RN, Retired, came to live here in 1980. She was farewelled following a Requiem Mass conducted by Father Paul Hilder at the St. Philip Howard Catholic Church where Joan's three sons - Mark Whitmore and his wife Mary, David Whitmore with partner Jane, and Stephen Whitmore with partner Natasha, gathered with many friends. Joan was born in May, 1933 in Darlinghurst. She was the first born to Magnus and Mabel Rankin and the elder sister to Clyde. She grew up in the family home in Earlwood, Sydney and attended St. Bridget's school in Marrickville. Joan was a blond bombshell and one of her claims to fame was that she was in the first intake of female lifesavers in Australia, based at Maroubra Beach. She loved dancing, and was a proficient ice skater. She married Graham Whitmore in 1955, and they had three boys. As the wife of a builder, the family moved many times. Joan was always an active member of the community, beginning with the school tuck shop, and was heavily involved in the church youth group. Joan had a great interest in reading, and used her immense trivia knowledge to win a prize in the TV show, BP Pick A Box. She had a wonderful sense of humour and was not averse to pulling pranks. Joan and Graham separated and two years later she met and married Peter, a retired Commander in the Royal Navy. Peter introduced Joan to Norfolk. He was an avid lover of the island and Joan quickly shared his passion. They enjoyed a number of holidays here before finally relocating in 1980, to own and operate 'Impulse', a boutique in Burnt Pine. They gained permanent resident status as soon as they were eligible and built their dream house overlooking Ball Bay using a single Norfolk Pine from~~

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

~~the property. It allowed Joan and Peter to indulge in their hobby for shell collecting and gardening and it provided plenty of room for their two dogs. The Island welcomed them and Joan often talked of their love for Norfolk and their new friends. Joan enjoyed gardening (they won a competition); cards (Bridge and Jarro); cooking and entertaining, reading and music. Their house was always full of music, be it from one of their organs or a musical soundtrack turned up loud. They were founders of the Norfolk Island Organ Society. She continued her life-long love of volunteering for the community, becoming involved with White Oaks and the Church Council. Joan loved her family and would take every opportunity to visit them in Sydney, travelling at least once a year. She was a gadget collector and was always on the lookout for the latest invention, be it an egg slicer, a mango corer or an avocado keeper, she just 'had to have it'! Joan is survived by her three sons Mark, David and Stephen, three grandsons Christopher, Scott and Matthew and an unborn great grandchild due in January. To her family and her many friends, this House extends its deepest sympathy. May she rest in peace.~~

SPEAKER Thank you Mr Evans, Honourable Members as a mark of respect I ~~ask invite you to stand forthat all Members stand for~~ a period of silence ~~in their places.~~

PETITIONS

Thank you Honourable Members. Petitions, are there any Petitions this morning.

NOTICES

Notices, are there any Notices.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Are there any Questions Without Notice this morning.

MR NOBBS Thank you Mr Speaker a question for the responsible Minister in relation to KAVHA. What are the current site management arrangements of KAVHA with the recent departure of the Site Manager and when will the role be advertised to be filled

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Speaker and thank you Mr Nobbs for the question. Yes that is correct. The Site Manage appointed by the Commonwealth Government and the Norfolk Island Government has department Norfolk Island. At the moment the role is to be filled and the process moving forward is yet to be determined but if Mr Nobbs is agreeable I would take the question on notice unless Mr Speaker in his role as a senior member of the KAVHA Board would like to respond to that question. I would leave that to you otherwise I will take it on notice

MR BUFFETT I might be helpful to mention that there is no advise at this time from the Commonwealth about advancement of the replacement arrangement. Obviously it is under discussion but there is no decision at this time

MR NOBBS Thank you Mr Speaker I just ask the Minister for Roads. Is there a Road Maintenance Programme available

MR WARD Thank you Mr Speaker and thank you Mr Nobbs for the question. Yes, the Works Supervisor does have a programme available if you're asking if I have that here to give you today, no I don't but I could get that for you if you wish

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font: Bold, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font color: Black

MR NOBBS Thank you. The second part of the question is the Burnt Pine upgrade was done some years ago at considerable expense as you are aware Minister, and currently it's desperately in need of attention prior to its imminent collapse. Is there a plan to do anything about this fairly urgently

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

MRS WARD I would have to consult with the Works Supervisor to find where he has that on Programme. I'm sorry Mr Nobbs I don't have further detail than that

Formatted: Font color: Black

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker my question is to the Minister for the Environment. Will the Minister ensure that Code of Conduct for the use of jet skis in Emily Bay is published this weekend so that everyone is aware of their rights and responsibilities in using Emily Bay

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

MR WARD Thank you Mr Speaker and thank you Mrs Ward for the question. Most of the jet skiers that make use of Emily Bay comply with the voluntary Code but I'm guessing there's some new operators' who have come through, they may not be aware of the Code and so on, and so publicising it would be a good move and if I can find who has that Code I would be happy to have it published

Formatted: Font color: Black

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker a question again to the Minister for the Environment, it's asking for an update on where the Minister is at with the publication of the Plans of Management for the reserves

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

MR WARD Thank you Mr Speaker, the Plans of Management for the reserves are being looked at again, particularly in context with creating some zoning in the reserves to provide for some stock management issues and to address the erosion control measures that are needed in some of those reserves. The Plans did identify as they stood but it was an issue that I referred back to the Conservator so they could be worked at and those zoning measures could be put in place

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

MRS WARD A supplementary please, really I'm asking for a time frame Mr Speaker because this has been on the agenda for three years now

MR WARD Thank you Mr Speaker I would have to find the Conservator and find out how long it would take him to work this concept up

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker. My question is to the Chief Minister and it's in relation to the arson attack on Lighter No 1 on Cascade pier earlier this year. Is it a fact that a forensic examination was carried out at the scene and have the results been received by the relevant authorities and is the Chief Minister able to update the House

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Speaker and thank you Mrs Ward for the question. The answer is, I have no further information from the authorities regarding the arson attack on the lighter at Cascade, therefore I have no results of any investigation pertaining to it but I will take that on notice and have some reply to Mrs Ward in due course

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker again to the Chief Minister, is the Chief Minister able to provide the house with an update on whether a decision has been made on the Public Service Association wage claim

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Black

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Speaker and thank you Mrs Ward for the question. The Remuneration Tribunal I believe has considered it, but the results of the tribunal's findings have not been passed down to me and again I'll take that on notice in due course

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker again to the Chief Minister, is the Chief Minister able to inform the Members of the House who has been awarded the Government Business Enterprise divestment assessment project and is the Chief Minister aware or does he know when we can expect to see these consultants on the Island

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Speaker and thank you Mrs Ward for the question. Yes the contracts have been issued to Deloitte to start the review of the divestment programme for two of the GBE services, it has to commence within a period of months as I understand but as yet probably due to the change or some other delaying possibilities nothing further has eventuated. Again, I'll take that on notice and hope to have some information for Mrs Ward in due course

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Black

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker again to the Chief Minister. Is it a fact that under the Norfolk Island Public Service Bill 2013 the ability to appeal eligibility for external positions remains and if so will the Chief Minister explain how this process complies with contemporary public service management principles

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Black

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Speaker and thank you Mrs Ward for the question. That question refers to Human Resources Policies and I will have to take that question on notice

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

MR NOBBS Just following on from a question that Mrs Ward asked, I'm asking the Treasurer Mr Sheridan, with the PSA wage claim has there been a review of the basic, or minimum wage, which I understand is \$10 per hour

Formatted: Font color: Black

MR SHERIDAN Thank you Mr Speaker and thank you Mr Nobbs for the question. The minimum wage is currently \$10.70 an hour and in the short term of this Government no, the minimum wage has not been reviewed but it is certainly the intent that it will be reviewed and I'm waiting on one vital piece of data to come out and that's for us to get our Retail Price Index back on track and as soon as that RPI is able to be gazetted and it's hopeful that it will be very shortly I intend to work on the minimum wage, because that's something that has not been progressed over the last few years and it certainly needs to be increased

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

MR NOBBS \$10.70. I'm a bit out of date. When was that brought in, when did it go to \$10.70

Formatted: Font color: Black

MR SHERIDAN Thank you Mr Speaker about three years ago it went from \$8.50 to \$10.70. That was some years ago now, and it needs to be linked and I'm hoping to get the RPI on track so we can link that so that it goes up on a yearly basis

Formatted: Font color: Black

MR EVANS Thank you Mr Speaker this is a question to the Minister relating to broadcasting. Has the Minister received an offshore offer to buy or lease the local radio station

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

MS ADAMS Not that I'm aware

Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm

MR EVANS Thank you Mr Speaker I've also got a question for Minister Adams, can the Minister tell the House how many are underemployed or unemployed and being a risk or a burden on the community

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Evans for the question. That's information I'm sorry that I'm unable to give you off the top of my head. I'll do my very best to get you qualitative advise on that as soon as I can. I'll take it on notice

SPEAKER May I just remind Members, you will realise this, but I'll emphasise it because it's been stated a number of times this morning, but for questions to actually be on notice, it needs to be put on the Notice Paper and whilst Ministers are responding that they will take it on notice, if you wish it to actually be on notice you will need to actually place it on the paper. Ministers in many instances often of their own volition provide information by other machinery and that is their option but I just mention the formalities of it

MR EVANS Thank you Mr Speaker to the Minister for Works. Due to the still lingering global financial crisis having a huge effect on Norfolk's economy, Norfolk's private sector has suffered a large number of job losses and loss of job hours due to a large percentage of workers in that sector, and we've seen a large percentage, 10% of the workforce actually leave, there is some perception in the private sector community that this has not been the case for areas within the public sector despite large drops in activity and even productivity in certain areas, can the Minister assure the private sector that those cost cutting measures are still considered by Managers and by policies within the Administration

MR WARD Thank you Mr Speaker and thank you Mr Evans for the question. Yes, I can confirm that every reasonable cost saving measure is considered by this Government and though it must be said that we try to avoid intensifying the downturn, by keeping local people employed where possible, every job that is lost creates a flow on effect through the community and through the economy

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker my question is to the Minister responsible for Immigration. Can the Minister explain why fees applicable to the residency by citizenship has changed from being \$125 per application to now being \$125 being charged per person on each application which includes children and infants

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Speaker the fact of the matter is that the law is now being applied

MRS WARD Just a supplementary if I may, is it that the fees and charges have been set at Regulation and that is obviously something that's changed. Am I correct in that

MS ADAMS No. There's been no change to the fees. It's within the Act itself that the provision is to be found. Off the top of my head, yes the law provides that more than one person under 18 years of age can be on one application but then the next clause states that each person within that one application are to be treated as a separate application. That ties in with the fees

MRS WARD A supplementary if I may, so can the Minister explain why that was not adhered to last month on an application that was made on the 8th August, but then why it is applied now, several months later. I don't recall making amendments in the House

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Speaker there were no any amendments made and I won't answer anything further on this question. I'll take it on notice and make sure you have a qualitative answer

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker...

MS ADAMS Excuse me Mr Speaker it was made quite clear in the recent fact sheet that residency by citizenship that the fees are being applied as the law requires them to be applied. That's the advise that I took and that is being applied

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker again to the Minister responsible for Immigration. Given that the very same fact sheet relating to this section of the Act says that an application will "usually" be processed within 15 days. Will the Minister explain first whether there's any legal backing to support that statement and secondly will she explain to me why it has been brought to my attention this morning that an application has been with the Minister for 41 days and is still unresolved

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Speaker and thank you Mrs Ward for the question. I will have to take that on notice. I have no knowledge that I have an unanswered application that has been before me for 41 days. Certainly I'll make enquires of the Immigration Department

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker again to the Minister responsible for Immigration, isn't it a fact that there is no provision in the law to suspend an application and that the Minister is either to grant or refuse

MS ADAMS It's getting pretty close to a legal opinion Mr Speaker I'll take it on notice

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker, again to the Minister for Immigration, what measures are in place to ensure that the new immigration regime is being monitored

MS ADAMS Mr Speaker I'm concerned that the question is casting aspersions on the Immigration Department. I'll take that on notice and have a discussion with my officers thank you. As far as I am aware the immigration regime is being appropriately monitored

MRS WARD ... and then by whom if I may ask that supplementary

MS ADAMS I repeat. I'll take that on notice and have a discussion with my Immigration officers who work in very close association with the Administration's Legal Department. Thank you Mr Speaker

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker under the Funding Agreement the Norfolk Island Administration is to provide quarterly immigration reports to the Administrator and the Commonwealth Finance Officer. Will the Minister undertake to provide all Legislative Assembly Members at least with the same information

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Speaker off the top of my head although without looking at the Administration website info.gov.nf I believe that that data is published quarterly however I will take that on notice and certainly more than happy Mrs Ward to ensure that all Members have a copy as is appropriate

SPEAKER Whilst you're looking I'll just seek if there are any other questions without notice at this time. Mr Porter were you seeking the call. I'll come back to you Mrs Ward

MR PORTER Thank you Mr Speaker. To the Minister responsible for the Public Service. As you are no doubt aware the Administrator has announced the grants that are available for apprenticeships and traineeships. Given these funds are available has the Service has determined the capacity to employ any apprentices thereby perhaps retaining more people on island

Formatted: English (U.S.)
Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)
Formatted: English (U.S.)
Formatted: English (U.S.)
Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, English (U.S.)

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Speaker and thank you Mr Porter for that question. I have been in dialogue with several members of the apprenticeship programme. They are very appreciative of the money that's been allocated to them but as yet there have been no further developments along those lines but I'll take that question on notice and hopefully have more detail for you in due course

Formatted: English (U.S.)

MR PORTER A supplementary to that, if that capacity is there, would the Service look at the opportunity that may exist of out of trade apprentices being available on Island or apprentices of Island people now out of trade within Australia being available on the Island. There's generous subsidies available to people back in the workforce and they come readily partly trained. There's opportunities that perhaps could be examined there

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Speaker and thank you Mr Porter for that question. It has also been a subject. I know there are apprenticeships already under way and we appreciate those who have taken the opportunity to employ some our young people in apprenticeship programmes. They have made some applications for financial assistance and other assistance, particularly in TAFE colleges and so on but it is a question that again I will take on notice to give more detail to you Mr Porter

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker if I may again to the Minister responsible for Immigration and it relates to passenger arrival cards and the question is, why does the Norfolk Island Government continue to discriminate against Australian citizens by asking whether they suffer from tuberculosis or have any criminal conviction when that is neither backed by law and nor are we as Australian citizens subjected to that on entering mainland Australia

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Speaker and thank you Mrs Ward for that question. This is a discussion that I have been having with Mrs Ward. As Members are aware, we are at the present time breaking immigration policy into two parts. One part is for Australian and New Zealand citizens and the other part is for people who are holders of foreign visas. That process has reached the stage where I took the decision to invite Mrs Ward to work with me in this area and this is one of the areas that she has identified as possibly needing further consideration. I took on board that that was the case. At this point in time I'm hoping that Mrs Ward and I are continuing to work through these processes so that these policy and guidelines can be completed. And yes, what was raised is a valid point and is under consideration. Thank you

Formatted: Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

MR NOBBS It just raises a point there if I may say so, what you're saying is really that prior conditions is no longer relevant to a person joining the Healthcare Scheme. Is that right. Is that the way its working now. I asked that the other day, because I'm not too sure where we're sitting now because things are changing

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Speaker as Members are aware, Australian and New Zealand citizens on arrival automatically become holders of unrestricted entry permits and there is no health requirement other than there is a need if a person, other than an Australian or a New Zealander arrives, they will have been required to tick on the arrival card if they had tuberculosis. That is the point that Mrs Ward is raising. That issue is under consideration as to whether or not to put that the passenger arrival card. Your question further is that people on unrestricted entry permits aren't required to do very much of anything other than stating on the passenger arrival card that they intend to stay for in excess of 120 days they are then required to join the Norfolk Island Healthcare scheme. The question of pre existing conditions, and the two separate issues around TB and around pre existing conditions and the pre existing aspect is a matter that I'm discussing at the moment as part of the Healthcare Review, with the Healthcare Manager. I'm happy to take that component on notice and report back

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

MR NOBBS If they've got TB they've got a pre existing condition that's what we're talking about

MS ADAMS I don't know if we can say that, but the process that follows if a person ticks that box on the passenger arrival card, is a totally different one to if a person is applying to be a member of the Healthcare Fund. Two different issues. One the passenger arrival card process would then take that person to the hospital, to the GMO. That's about as much as I would like to say off the top of my head at this time. I'll take it on notice

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker a question to the Minister for Finance, and he may be able to give a figure off the top of his head or take it on notice, but is the Minister aware of how much the Norfolk Island Government contributes to local charities, services and sporting clubs through duty exemptions tabled in this House in any given year

MR SHERIDAN Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker you look fine up there. Thank you Mrs Ward I'll take that question on notice because I don't have those figures available

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker, a question to the Chief Minister, I wonder if the Chief Minister is today able to table the Norfolk Island Government's plans for their strategic direction and in the adjoining Legislative Programme

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker and thank you Mrs Ward for that question. That question has been broken up into several parts. The Legislative Programme will be tabled in papers this morning, so that's the answer to that question. Regarding the Strategic Plan Mr Deputy Speaker, its being worked upon and I'm hoping to be able to provide the details to the strategic Plan today but there have been of course some changes to our situation in the last six months, not the least the new Government and some policy changes but we are working on the Strategic Plan and we hope to have that finalised by the next meeting

MRS WARD Thank you. I'll ask a question to the Minister responsible for cultural heritage and it will draw from part of this strategic plan, if work is being done on it today. Will the Minister outline what role the cultural heritage will play in the Norfolk Island Government's Strategic Plan and what budget allocation has been made in the 2013-14 budget to support the aims and aspirations or objectives of the cultural heritage policy

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker and thank you Mrs Ward. Regrettably there is no funds in the current budget, although it is under discussion, for culture and heritage, however, I don't have it in front of me today although I clearly recall on page one of the Roadmap the Commonwealth clearly spells out its position on culture and heritage including the recognition that in the Preamble to the Norfolk Island Act which creates the parameters from which the Act is crafted, has clear recognition of the need for the Pitcairn descendants to retain their culture, heritage and traditions. That remains very much a focus of myself as Minister for culture, heritage and traditions. Personally I believe it should be the benchmark against which we take our decisions as a Government as to whether or not the culture heritage and traditions of this community are being in any way diminished. The Commonwealth recognises this, I recognise this, and I believe my ministerial colleagues, I would like to think that all Members around this table equally recognise the importance of the culture, heritage and traditions of this community. Thank you Mr Deputy

MRS WARD Supplementary. Given that the Minister is clearly passionate about cultural heritage, to the point that she took the title Minister for Cultural Heritage, is it a fact that the Minister took a budgeted proposal to enhance the cultural

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm

~~heritage of Norfolk Island understanding its value both socially and in terms of the economy, so is it a fact that that was taken up and it has somehow been rejected by Cabinet during the budget process~~

~~Following a meeting of MLAs with the Immigration manager yesterday— is it a fact that Australian and NZ citizen who have cash bonds being held by the Administration can immediately apply to have their money refunded?~~

~~Is there an administrative process in place for Australian and NZ citizens to follow in order to get back confidential information that was used to support their GEP applications under the old immigration regime? If there is no procedure in place, would the Minister ask for a procedure of this kind to be developed so that people can have their private information returned to them?~~

~~Given that the Minister has removed the Immigration Policy and guidelines motion from the Notice Paper and that she stated last month that “the more we look the more we find the more change we need”, would the Minister spell out exactly what she thinks needs to be changed in either the act or the policy?~~

~~Given that by the 1st August the Minister is required to review Healthcare and medical evacuation levies will there be an increase on the 1st September and how much will it be?~~

~~Paper tabled; Minister for Cultural Heritage and Community Services, Ms Adams — Medivac Flights during January to 31 July 2013~~

~~Given that the CM has said that the Chief of Staff position is something of an ongoing consideration would the CM advise the House whether or not he has made a decision— will there be a CofS within this compound and if so, when will the position be advertised?~~

~~Would the CM provide to the House his understanding of how NI is affected by the Federal Government moving into caretaker mode?~~

~~Given that the CM responded to my QON about his government's vision, plan and legislative program, by saying that the document is not yet ready to be released however he looked forward to providing it to Members and the community, is the CM able to provide that to Members today?~~

~~Given that the CM committed to seek assistance from the office of the Administrator to help make a list of the Cwlths support to the island since the signing of the Road Map and the dollar value, is the CM now able to do that?~~

~~Question relates to divestment of government business enterprises— given that the Commonwealth has completed its tender process and a Consultant has been appointed to carry out an assessment— when can we expect to see this person or these persons on island?~~

~~Is it a fact that the NIGTB has had its annual financial grant cut and if so, by how much and, where have the cuts been made and if the CM could refer to specific areas that would be helpful?~~

~~Question relates to the Oceania Economic Development Corporation's— would the CM assure the House that his Government remains committed to the Road Map reform program in addition to welcoming new private sector investment to the island?~~

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers, Tab stops: 6.35 cm, Left +

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: Not at 5.08 cm + 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Given that a preferred applicant for the Administration CEO Position has been chosen, would the CM inform the House of his expectations of the new CEO?

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left

Question relates to the time it is taking for the NIA to comply with the FAG milestones — is it a fact that the Regional dept has given the NIA an extension of time to comply with May milestones — and if so, what is the deadline and what are the consequences if they fail to comply?

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font color: Black

MS ADAMS Definitely not. It continues to be under discussion between myself and the Minister for Finance, thank you

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm

MR BUFFETT Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker, I have a question for Minister Ward. I've had a number of enquiries of recent days really about the Ball Bay reserve. There are small red flags along the road line there which are marking various spots in that reserve. It's rather adjacent to where the large mound of spoil from the road that is being adjusted into Ball Bay. Is there an explanation for the red flags? Does it mean another road? Does it mean another something?

MR WARD Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker and thank you Mr Buffett for that question. I'm not aware of these markers that you've indicated and I'll have to take that question on notice and ask the Works Supervisor or perhaps the Conservator as to what the markers represent

MR BUFFETT I would be grateful. They are certainly there. I've seen them myself. There are a series of them. That would be helpful thank you. A further question if I may Mr Deputy Speaker, it's to the Chief Minister and about the Funding Agreement and the delivery of funds in terms of meeting the milestones. I firstly ask the Chief Minister if in respect of the last financial year that is the year that has ended on the 30th June 2013 whether Norfolk Island has met all of the milestones, and if we've met all of the milestones has all of the funds so arranged under the Funding Agreement been delivered to the Norfolk Island Government

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11 pt, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Superscript

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 6.98 cm

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker and thank you Mr Buffett for that question and I'm pleased to advise Mr Buffett that all the milestones have been met and all the funding under the Funding Agreement has been delivered to the Norfolk Island Administration

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black

MR BUFFETT Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker further if I may. We are still on the Funding Agreement and milestones and funds, the last question was to the 30th June 2013, I'm now addressing the financial year that we're in that commenced on the 1st July. Could the Chief Minister advise what funds have been received to date.

Formatted: Superscript

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Superscript

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker and thank you Mr Buffett for that question. Mr Buffett if you wouldn't mind I have a statement to make in relation to that question in regards to a question that I received previously from Mrs Ward and I would like to make that statement at that time or I can answer it now, whichever you prefer

Formatted: Normal, Justified, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11 pt, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

MR BUFFETT That's in your court Chief Minister. I do have a further question if I may please Mr Deputy Speaker

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11 pt, Font color: Auto, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

MR SNELL Mr Deputy Speaker I'm very happy to answer the question now thank you. Mr Deputy Speaker, Mr Buffett I would like to provide this information as requested following on also Notice No 15 by Mrs Ward last month, which I partially answered the question at the previous sitting and therefore as you will appreciate it is no longer on the Notice Paper. I didn't want to answer the question in full at that time as I didn't have all the details but I do so now. The full details to refresh the memories of those, the question from Mrs Ward at the time read, Would the Chief Minister provide the House with a list of everything that the Commonwealth has done to assist and support Norfolk Island since both Governments signed the Road Map in March 2011, and attach a dollar value to that support? As mentioned at that previous sitting Honorable Members i didn't want to overstate or understate any figure and wanted to liaise with the Office of the Administrator . I have now done that and I provide. Firstly 2010-2011 direct support to the Norfolk Island Administration and the Norfolk Island community was \$5.7m, in 2010-2011 independent studies was \$17,000 making a total of \$6.4m. In 2011-2012 direct support was \$2.9m. In 2011-2012 they also provided the exit fees for the airline which amounted to \$11.2m making a grand total for that period of \$14.1m. In the period also 2012-2013 direct support to the Norfolk Island Administration and the Norfolk Island Government was \$4.5m and further reforms funding totalled \$2.9m which made a grand total of \$7.4m. In the period 2013-2014 direct support has been given to Norfolk Island of \$4.4m and community initiatives totalled another \$1m for a grand total of \$5.4m. Mr Deputy Speaker making a total of \$33.3m that have been expended on Norfolk Island so far. I hope that answers the question for Mr Buffett

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0 cm, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font:

MR BUFFETT Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker. I thank the Chief Minister for that information which is very helpful based upon that, I wonder if I could just ask this. In terms of the first period in which we might expect the 2013-2014 payments to be made, have we received the first branch of funds. Have we received any money in this financial year?

Formatted: Font:

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11 pt, English (U.S.)

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker. In the 2013-2014 period, no Mr Deputy speaker we haven't. To the best of my knowledge, the deliverables though for that period are not due to be finalised until the end of September. It's on a three monthsly payment so the first payment will be thereafter

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Body 1, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

MR BUFFETT Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker, could I ask the Chief Minister whether we've received the \$400,000 which is the sign on payment from the 1st July

Formatted: Font:

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Formatted: Superscript

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker. Yes, I can confirm that, that has been received

Formatted: Font: English (U.S.)

MR BUFFETT So the earlier answer that we hadn't received anything, we've really have received \$400,000

Formatted: Font:

MR SNELL Well I was looking at the deliverables at that time but we have received th at \$400,000

Formatted: Font:

Formatted: English (U.S.)

MR BUFFETT Good thank you. Thank you for that advise

DEPUTY SPEAKER Can I just interrupt you. I assume you want to ask another one. Minister Ward, did you want to answer an earlier question?

MR WARD Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker I've had some advise provided to me. Apparently, and it's in relation to t he question Mr Buffett asked earlier,

interest was to purchase the installation of a high temperature incinerator and a recycling press. The other was for a proposed Cascade Jetty upgrade. Both of the subsequent applications for this infrastructure funding were successful and the Funding Agreement for the high temperature incinerator was signed between the Commonwealth and Norfolk Island Governments on the 8th July 2013. A Funding Agreement was not able to be signed by the RDAF for extension and upgrade at the Cascade Jetty before the Federal Government went into caretaker mode. It is now at the discretion of the new Government as to whether or not they commit to the project. The Norfolk Island Government is pursuing this as a matter of priority with the Commonwealth. Does that cover your immediate concerns otherwise I could...

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Superscript

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

MR BUFFETT Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker I have a question to the Minister who has responsibility for Police, the Chief Minister. I ask whether the Chief Minister can give us a report of our situations in the police force. There are rumours that people are being stood down, dissent in the ranks. What's the score

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker and thank you Mr Buffett for that question. I will take that on notice. We were hoping that there would be a visitation from Mr. Chris Cooper in the very near future to Norfolk Island to discuss the Memorandum of Understanding with the Norfolk Island Police as to members of the Police Force being stood down, I can't elaborate on that but I will take that on notice and get a report for you as soon as possible

MR BUFFETT Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker I ask, and I think this would probably be for the Chief Minister but it may be with his colleagues elsewhere. The question is, are there Commonwealth funded programmes which include Norfolk Island to mark the centenary of the Gallipoli landing, including the possibility of participation of maybe Norfolk Island descendents or relatives of those who served at Gallipoli

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

MR SHERIDAN Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker and thank you Mr Buffett. The RSL or the Australian Government called for expressions of interest, some time ago now, some 12 or 18 months ago for activities that could be nominated for consideration of which could be utilized by the community or the Government to commemorate this anniversary in 2015. I'm not aware of the RSL the local sub branch making any submission. I'm aware of one submission that was actually presented by myself to them in regards to this area. In regards to families or descendents of families for the participants in the Gallipoli campaign, the Australian Government is allocating a certain number of positions for the dawn service in Gallipoli. Now that's to be on a lottery type basis because there are so many existing descendents of those people who fought at Gallipoli and that's a project that's been undertaken by the RSL in Australia of which people have to nominate and then of course if there is a greater number, then there will be some form of ballot to determine who would get a position at that dawn service in 2015. As for local commemorations, I'm not aware of any activity to date that the RSL has in mind but I am positive that there will be some activities by the local sub branch with involvement from the Australian RSL on that day in 2015. The details, I am unaware of at this time

Formatted: English (U.S.)

MR BUFFETT Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker a supplementary and I thank Minister Sheridan for that information. I'm probably trying to encourage information that if there is a prospective of participation of Norfolk Island men and women, as either descendents or relatives, that they know the channels to pursue so that they may at least be part of the ballot if there is to be a ballot or whatever way it works

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

MR SHERIDAN Yes and thank you Mr Buffett for that supplementary . I believe that if anybody was interested in that, that they contact the sub-branch of Norfolk

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Island committee who should have the details available of that process. I'm pretty positive that they would have

MR PORTER Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker. Far be it from me to say that the Speaker stole my question, but in regard to actions with the Australian Government I intended to ask the same question. I also had a supplementary to it that I would still ask if I may. I understand the Administrator may be absent from the island at the moment but I'm wondering what plan the Chief Minister has to have discussions with the Administrator given the change of Government and would we be privy to the Administrators opportunity to also further our cause with the new Government

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker and thank you Mr Porter for that question. There will be ongoing dialogue with the Department and of course with the Administrator when he returns, on a proper way forward. I will be answering a little bit of that question in a question on notice from Mrs Ward

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker a question if I may to the Minister with responsibility for immigration. Given that it is public knowledge that there were some concerns expressed by the Government over the immigration promotion component of the May milestones, yet we understand from the Chief Minister that this money has been received, is it a fact that that was by the way of a variation to the Funding Agreement and if so, would the Minister please explain what that means and are those funds to be specifically targeted

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker. Yes, there was a component from the Funding Agreement held back. I think it was \$300,000 to meet certain aspects. All of that has now been fixed up except some weeks ago now, \$50,000 continued to be held back. We have had discussion with the Commonwealth and they are satisfied and as far as I am aware have released that \$50,000 because we have given an undertaking and I don't have that information before me at this time, but there are certain criteria there which we have agreed that we will meet and are working very actively toward meeting at this point in time. From November I think by the 29th November 2013 that we will tick off totally on that. By way of information we have an immigration and investment promotion strategy. The one I have here before me isn't in a form that can be tabled because other changes are being made within it but this diarises steps that are being made by Norfolk Island Government in respect of ancillary immigration issues, for example, I'll just give you one, b y the 11th October we have ~ and we have set these timelines, not the Commonwealth, we have set these goalposts for ourselves to meet ~ to ensure by this date that action 1 under Monitoring the System page 5 of the policy paper on Immigration, Improving Immigration in Norfolk Island September 2012 will be met and published for the first quarter covering July to September 2013. It's just setting out in detail. So is that of assistance to you Mrs Ward. \$50,000 was the amount of money. We've guaranteed as best we can but I'm going to put this on the table at this point in time, we have agreed that we're going to do a, b, c, d, e. It includes putting in place the e-book for investment. The difficulty of course that we face is that we have no certainty. What we are saying to people that we are going to be has no certainty around it until such time that we have certainty of understanding with the Commonwealth as to the road that we are travelling forward and that's the road that we will be into discussion with Commonwealth in the very near future. But I can just hold up as a demonstration, you will recall that the IBDC, the Infrastructure and Business Development Committee of this Parliament have undertaken that there be an e-book. We have taken that on board. That e-book has just come off the press, still in draft form, but it's a demonstration that we are moving forward with our commitment. However, I reinforce, what we're saying in here can have no certainty around that we're a low tax regime or that we're not a low tax regime. In order to give certainty to potential investors we too as a community need certainty around where we are taking the community forward. I hope that's helpful

- Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm
Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Superscript

- Formatted: English (U.S.)
- Formatted: English (U.S.)
- Formatted: Superscript
- Formatted: English (U.S.)
- Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

- Formatted: English (U.S.)
- Formatted: English (U.S.)

- Formatted: English (U.S.)
- Formatted: English (U.S.)

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker a supplementary as to where the \$50,000 will be used specifically to create information packs

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

MS ADAMS Yes. That is correct. Offshore advertising. All those things. I'm not quite sure that \$50,000 is going to go quite as far as I'm wanting to make it go but we'll be doing our best within what we've been given

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker. A question to the Chief Minister to request an update on his position or whether ~ it's to do with the employment of the Chief of Staff in this compound, the Chief Minister has informed members that he and his colleagues were looking at the criteria around that position. Again this has been going on for four months or more. May we have an update please

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker and thank you Mrs Ward for that question. Yes the position criteria has been finalised and the necessary recruitment process should commence shortly

Formatted: English (Australia)

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

DEPUTY SPEAKER Any further questions bearing in mind the time

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker if I may I would just like to give additional information to one of the questions that Mrs Ward asked earlier. I asked my officers to go and make an inquiry of the immigration Department in respect of the 41 day application. Yes, I can't tell you if its 41 days but certainly there is one application that is almost ready to tick off. You have to keep in mind that under the Immigration Act residency by citizenship, 28A, the Minister needs to be satisfied and there are certain questions that need to be asked in respect of a particular application. One relating to prescribed arrangements around provision of medical services, that is number one and the second one is intention to reside ordinarily in Norfolk Island is grant of residency under 28A, so there is one outstanding which I understand is shortly to have a final decision. Advise has been taken. And on another question if I may, arising from Mrs Ward around the passenger arrival card and the issue of tuberculosis. I've asked to be provided with some information around that and can say that the tuberculosis question arises under the Contagious Diseases Act as a notifiable disease for Norfolk Island while the criminal convictions question on the passenger arrivals card arises under section 43(1)(d) of the Immigration Act where a person is a prohibited immigrant if they have been convicted of any offence which is punishable by six months or more imprisonment even if they do not actually do any prison time unless they get the prior approval from the Immigration Minister through the issue of an endorsed permit to enter Norfolk Island as a person recognised as being a person subject to section 43 of the Act, so they're just two issues that I will continue to look at Mrs Ward on our passenger arrival card. I hope that's a bit more quantitative

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm

MR PORTER Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker. Given that we have documents circulated now and I understand that our new CEO has accepted the position and will be coming soon, I'm a great believer in a new broom, I would wonder if the chief Minister could advise us where our Public Service Act legislation is given that to have a new CEO administering a new Act I think it would be a much better or more simple or more pleasant entry to our political arena

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker and thank you Mr Porter for that question. The Public Sector Management Act has been assented to and the conditions of the employment of the new CEO will be advised when I present that in Notices

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker, just carrying on from the response and I thank the Minister for the response, my question is to the Minister

with responsibility for immigration, isn't it a fact that at the last sitting of the House the Minister stated and I'll quote, the issue is they declare that they intend to be ordinarily resident in Norfolk Island. Declaration made. Legislation met. End of store end of quote, and if so would the Minister be able to explain the difficulty in interpreting a declaration which has been made to that effect

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker I'll take that on notice

DEPUTY SPEAKER Any further questions without notice Honourable Members. Then we move to Answers to Questions on Notice

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Mrs Ward under Question on Notice No 21 has asked the Minister for Cultural Heritage

We move to Papers Honourable Members and Community Services a question. Do you have a response to that

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker yes. Question on Notice No 21, from Mrs Ward asks is it a fact that the term 'ordinarily resident' is not defined in relation to Residency by citizenship in the Immigration Act 1980, and if so; what criteria has been set to assist the Minister in making a decision and is this information publicly available? In response, it is a fact that the term 'ordinarily resident' is not defined in relation to residency for citizenship in the Immigration Act 1980 (the Act).

Whether a person is ordinarily resident is a question of fact and a question of degree in each case. There are no hard and fast rules. It is the place where the person intends to permanently and ordinarily reside from time to time. It is the place where the person intends to live and work. A person can not be ordinarily resident at more than one place at the same time. A person can be absent intermittently for reasons such as employment or health. All relevant matters that are presented with the application are taken into consideration and of utmost importance is the consideration whether the person intends to reside on Norfolk Island as their principal place of residence at the time of the declaration. We have two Norfolk Island cases which give excellent guidance on the meaning of "ordinarily resident" being *Sanders v Knobs* [1999] NFSC 3 and *Christian v Griffiths* [2010] NFSC 5. Those cases are available on the Government website info.gov.nf. Thank you Mr Speaker

Thank you Mr Speaker, Question No 22 from Mrs Ward is also in my name. Given that General Entry Permit supporting documents are being retained by the Norfolk Island Administration; will the Minister table the policy and legal justification which supports the decision to retain personal information indefinitely? From memory Mr speaker, this was an earlier question but maybe in a different format. It was mentioned previously in reply to a similar question that the confidential financial information lodged with an application for a GEP forms part of the information required by the decision maker to enable an outcome to be arrived at. As those papers form part of the decision making process they must be retained with the other papers considered to arrive at an outcome for the application. The retained personal information is subject to Information Privacy Principle 4. Information Privacy Principles are rules and principles prescribed under the Privacy Act for the handling of personal information by government agencies. Information Privacy Principle 4 deals with the security and storage of personal information. The Administration is bound, and observes, those principles

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker with the point about under the Privacy Act with storage, is the Minister able to say whether that is indefinitely

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 6.35 cm, Left + Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font: Bold

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 6.35 cm, Left + Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11 pt, Bold

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11 pt, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font color: Black, (no proofing)

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Justified, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm

wishing to access the report. Those preliminary comments that have been made will be of great interest to the Working Group going forward. I thank them for being proactive. Mrs Ward in her question has asked are there any recommendations that the Minister does not give general support to? As stated earlier in my response the review brings to the table for consideration seven recommendations, recommendations which require serious consideration in a consultative fashion between all stakeholders with the prime objective of achieving long term social wellbeing for this community. I clearly support that goal. Thank you.

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11 pt, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

SPEAKER Question 27 on the Notice Paper. Do you wish to respond now, Chief Minister.

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Normal, Indent: Left: 0 cm, Space Before: 0 pt, After: 0 pt, Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11 pt, Bold

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Speaker. **Question 27**, Mrs Ward asks the Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism, Mr Snell. Given that a new Federal Government has been elected; will the Chief Minister reaffirm his Government's position in relation to the Road Map reform agenda and explain in detail what he will do to encourage a Liberal Government to appreciate the urgent need for an agreed whole of government position in relation to Norfolk Island? Mr Speaker, as I alluded to earlier, dialogue will be entered into with the reform commitments and important considerations as soon as possible however also I am pleased to advise that following receipt of the media release entitled "A better way for Norfolk Island" issued by the Coalition spokesman for Norfolk Island, Michael Keenan, MP, at that time I immediately sent an email to him on behalf of the Norfolk Island Government in the following terms: "On behalf of the Chief Minister and the Ministers of the Norfolk Island Government, I wish you and your Party every success in tomorrow's Federal Election. The Norfolk Island Government is appreciative of the content of your Media Release issued Thursday, 5 September 2013 entitled "A better way for Norfolk Island". The Norfolk Island Government looks forward to working in partnership with the Coalition Government to return Norfolk Island to economic sustainability and progressing the reform process on the basis that there will be a net benefit for Norfolk Island and its community and there is appropriate consideration of local circumstances". Mr Speaker, On Monday, 9 September 2013, following the Federal election held on Saturday, 7 September 2013, I wrote to the Prime Minister-elect and a number of the Coalition Party members congratulating them on their election; acknowledging the positive policy statement "A better way for Norfolk Island". In those letters I sought an opportunity for myself and my Ministerial colleagues to meet, at the earliest opportunity, with the Coalition Ministers when appointed to progress the reform process to return Norfolk Island to economic sustainability to ensure that there is a net benefit for Norfolk Island its community and there is appropriate consideration of local circumstances and advising that the Norfolk Island Government is pleased that there is a clear intention by the Coalition Government to consult and work in partnership with the Norfolk Island Government. In addition, Mr Speaker, on Monday, 9 September 2013, I issued a Media Release acknowledging the Coalition Party Policy Statement for Norfolk Island. I am pleased to advise, Mr Speaker, that my Ministerial colleague, the Hon Ron Ward, has already received a positive response from the Environment Minister-elect, the Hon Greg Hunt. Mr Speaker there are obviously different concerns about the question of reaffirming the motion to the Roadmap. Both this the 14th Legislative Assembly and the 13th Legislative Assembly have agreed to a course of action with regards to the Roadmap to securing essential funding to continue the workings of the Public Service and the funding of essential services here in Norfolk Island. However, we are dealing with a new Federal Government and they may have different views on the future funding, sustainability and the governance of Norfolk Island. In fact you could say at this time that we will all strive to comply with the terms of the Roadmap with those conditions in mind. However, it is to be considered that the Australian Government was committed to moving forward with the Roadmap especially at many times, Norfolk Island's moving into the Australian taxation and welfare system even though it had not been to Cabinet and the draft Cabinet submission was not proceeding. This obviously indicates that the Australian Government does not endorse the Roadmap so there could be changes in these areas. I hope that supplies the answer to the question by Mrs Ward. Thank you Mr Speaker

Formatted: Superscript

Formatted: Superscript

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Speaker. **Question 28** The question reads, Mrs Ward to ask the Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism "Given that the 2011 Australian Continuous Improvement Group's Public Service Review made twelve recommendations for change and only one has been partially addressed so far; will the Chief Minister outline his government's plan to ensure that the other recommendations and options are prioritized and progressed?" Mr Speaker, the final report entitled "Norfolk Island Public Service Review" was delivered by ACIG to the Commonwealth Department on 21 November 2011. The Department subsequently released the final report to the Norfolk Island Government on 19 January 2012. The final report was then made publicly available but without commentary endorsed by both Governments. As far as I am aware there is no agreed position by the Commonwealth and Norfolk Island regarding the report. The previous Norfolk Island Government endorsed the principal recommendations of the report and indicated to the Commonwealth that it would support the recommendations that are fundamental to the process of public sector reform. Of the 12 recommendations contained in the report, Recommendations 1 and 2 relate to governance or the proposed framework for future service delivery by the public sector. The Norfolk Island Government position has been that resolution of the governance framework for public sector service delivery is a fundamental starting point of the reform process. Progress on this point has obviously been limited. Divestment of government business enterprises to the private sector has received most attention and we are currently awaiting a visit to the Island by Deloitte who have been appointed Project Manager of the GBE Divestment program. The important issue of divestment of Commonwealth and State type functions has received less attention. However, a decision on an agreed governance framework remains a fundamental priority and this will be raised with the new Coalition Government at the earliest opportunity. Mr Speaker, I can advise that yesterday I wrote to the Hon Warren Truss, MP the Deputy Prime Minister-elect and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development with responsibility for Territories, seeking to meet with him at the earliest opportunity. The remaining 10 recommendations within the ACIG report relate to building the capacity of the public sector to deliver services within the governance framework. Some recommendations have been progressed and these include: Recommendations 3 and 4 related to a Capacity Building Team to fast track the change process. The Capacity Building Team recommendations were implemented with a reduced scale and in a shortened time frame to that recommended by the report. This may well have been due to finance constraints faced by the Commonwealth. As far as I am aware no exit report by the Capacity Building Team was ever provided to the Norfolk Island Government however, a copy of the Report has been sought through the Office of the Administrator to enable the new Chief Executive Officer to be fully briefed. Recommendation 5 relates to building capacity within the Hospital and this is being progressed. Recommendation 6 relates to replacement of the Public Sector Management Act 2000 and Human Resources Policies and Procedures Manual. The Public Service Bill 2013 was passed by this House and referred to the Administrator to seek the Federal Minister's instructions. Mr Speaker, I might make a note at this point in relation to the question earlier asked by Mr Porter, to avoid any hint that I may have mislead the House, the Public Sector Management Act has been assented to but the Public Service Bill has not been assented to. A draft Human Resources Policies and Procedures Manual has been prepared but this document has yet to be put forward for the necessary consultation processes. Recommendation 7 relates to development of long term vision and strategic plans for the Island. In this regard the Norfolk Island Government has commenced the preparation of a Strategic Plan and a draft Legislative Programme has been prepared to accompany the Plan. Other recommendations of the report, while important topics in their own right, have a lesser priority to getting our governance framework agreed and implemented. Some of the other recommendations may require further consideration, particularly in terms of the appropriateness of specific types of changes proposed or their likely cost of implementation. Thank you Mr Speaker.

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Speaker. **Question 29** from Mrs Ward to myself reads "Would the Chief Minister table the current guidelines used by panel

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Justified, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Line spacing: single, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11 pt, Bold

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11 pt, Bold

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

members in the Norfolk Island Administration merit selection recruitment process"? Mr Speaker the "Staff Recruitment and Selection Guidelines" which are given to all Interview Selection Panel Members in the Norfolk Island Administration merit selection recruitment process, is an internal document. It is provided to Interview Selection Panel Members by HR, it is not a document that is on the intranet or internet, and I reiterate that it is an internal Administration document. Therefore I will not be tabling it today Mr Speaker, however I do invite Mrs Ward, or any Member of the Legislative Assembly, to view the document in my office. I will add here Mr Speaker that all recruitment documentation, including these guidelines are currently under review in order to meet any new legislative requirements of the Public Service Bill 2013 when this Bill receives assent and comes into effect. Thank you Mr Speaker.

Formatted

MR WARD Thank you Mr Speaker. Question No 30 is Mr Evans to ask the Minister for the Environment, Given that the Headstone Bridge has been closed to the public, will the Minister advise 1. Why the bridge is closed to the public; 2. When will the bridge be reopened; 3. What are the costs of the project; and 4. From what vote will funds be drawn to pay for this project? I'll address the first section of Mr Evans question. Why the bridge is closed to the public? Headstone Bridge was damaged by storm water on the 26th June 2013. Risk assessment concluded that the bridge was in unsafe condition and in danger of total collapse if it continued to be used. Total collapse would have posed a risk to road users and would have made the repair job longer and thus more costly. Section 2 of the question. When will the bridge be reopened? A replacement designed to Australian standards was commissioned and tenders called. The preferred contractor has been selected from the tender process, the Administration's legal team are in the process of drawing up the contract which will be ready early next week for signing. Steel for the construction has been ordered to meet shipping timetables so as not to hold the project any further. The Southern Tiara Voyage 1126 is scheduled to arrive on October 11th. Once the materials are here, the timeframe for the construction is set down for four weeks, weather dependent. The bridge will be opened as soon as possible upon completion of the repair work. Section 3 of the questions. What are the costs of the project? The estimated total cost is \$120,000. The bridge construction costs \$101,010. The design work costs \$6,900 and an additional \$12,000 has been allowed to complete the project, resurface the roads, fix the rails and so on. Section 4 of the question. From what vote will funds be drawn to pay for this project? The costs will be allocated to roads, culvert maintenance, RV53505-340. As the damage occurred after the passing of appropriation, no funds were budgeted for this project so \$120,000 has moved to this vote from the Minister for Finance's discretionary vote. Thank you Mr Speaker.

Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted

SPEAKER That concludes Answers to Questions on notice. We move on

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Formatted: Font color: Black

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Speaker. I have several papers for presentation. I table a draft,

Formatted

Legislative Programme, I reiterate a draft Legislative Programme together with a list of legislation requiring amendment to cross reference and a list of legislation which refers to dollars amounts rather than to fee penalty units. Mr Speaker the items listed are to be finalised and prioritised and these will be done as part of the strategic planning process currently being conducted by myself and my ministerial colleagues. Thank you Mr Speaker.

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11 pt, Bold

Formatted: Normal, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, No bullets or numbering, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 2.22 cm

Formatted

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Speaker I table a Draft of the **Norfolk Island Tourism Strategic Plan 2013-2023**. I would like to highlight some of the key points in the development and changes since the last draft. The development of this document has occurred over the past 18 months, the process commenced with a review of the previous

Formatted: Justified

Formatted

Strategy, there was an industry/community consultation process on the vision statement, there was an industry/community on key industry issues, facilitated by Peter Kenyon from the Bank of Ideas, input was given by Economic Development Australia (EDA) on their visit in August 2012, and the first draft was delivered in September of 2012, Further Industry/community consultation occurred, feedback was provided from One Step Further during their recent Tourism Diploma training program here on the island and specific industry body consultation was provided. The progress of this draft will include your distribution of the document to the MLA's for their feedback as well as a final meeting of the Norfolk Island Government Tourist Bureau Advisory Board for feedback before a final is made available before the end of September. Changes to the last draft have been made to encompass feedback. Clearer distinction of what markets will be used to increase tourism , a stronger emphasis has been place on what the Norfolk Island Government Tourist Bureau will do for its part in the delivery of the plan, a leadership group (NIGTB Advisory Board) for the plan has been established. Clearer revision and reporting guidelines have been added, the Strategy document and the action plan have been separated. A clear indication of who the other organisations and associated bodies who are required to input action plans and how they can do this. Mr Speaker, I thank everyone who has had input and contribution into the compilation of this document. I table a Draft of the Norfolk Island Tourism Strategic Plan 2013-2023 and I look forward to presenting the final document at the October sitting.

MR SNELL Mr Speaker I table the **Annual Report of the Norfolk Island Public Service Board**. In tabling this report I wish to record my thanks to the members of the Public Service Board who continue to carry out their duties and functions with professionalism and competence. As Members around this table are aware, the new Public Service Bill 2013 does not include a provision for a Public Service Board, that role will be filled by a Public Service Commissioner. Until the Public Service Bill 2013 is assented to, the Public Service Board will continue its role and I again thank the members of the Board for their ongoing contribution.

MR SNELL Mr Speaker in accordance with section 248 of the Court of Petty Sessions Act 1960 I table the **Court of Petty Sessions (Civil Procedure Rules) Regulations 2013**.

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Speaker. Today I'm going to table the **Charter of the Commonwealth**. The document was signed by His Excellency, Kamelesh Sharma, the Commonwealth Secretary General on the 14th December 2012, on which day the Commonwealth Heads of the Commonwealth adopted the Charter of the Commonwealth. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II signed the Charter on Commonwealth Day as the Head of the Commonwealth and I think it pertinent at this time where we had two Members of this Parliament just return from being part of the Commonwealth of which Norfolk Island is a proud Member, to table this document and to read into Hansard the introduction to the Charter. We the people of the Commonwealth: Recognising that in an era of changing economic circumstances and uncertainty, new trade and economic patterns, unprecedented threats to peace and security, and a surge in popular demands for democracy, human rights and broadened economic opportunities, the potential of and need for the Commonwealth – as a compelling force for good and as an effective network for co-operation and for promoting development – has never been greater. Recalling that the Commonwealth is a voluntary association of independent and equal sovereign states, each responsible for its own policies, consulting and co-operating in the common interests of our peoples and in the promotion of international understanding and world peace, and influencing international society to the benefit of all through the pursuit of common principles and values. Affirming that the special strength of the Commonwealth lies in the combination of our diversity and our shared inheritance in language, culture and the rule of law; and bound together by shared history and tradition; by respect for all states and peoples; by shared values and principles and by concern for the vulnerable. Affirming that the Commonwealth way is to seek consensus through consultation and the sharing of

- Formatted
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial
- Formatted
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial
- Formatted
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial
- Formatted
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial
- Formatted
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial
- Formatted: Font: Not Bold
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial
- Formatted
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11
- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11
- Formatted
- Formatted
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11
- Formatted
- Formatted: Strong
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11
- Formatted
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11
- Formatted: Font color: Black
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11
- Formatted
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11
- Formatted
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11
- Formatted
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

experience, especially through practical co-operation, and further affirming that the Commonwealth is uniquely placed to serve as a model and as a catalyst for new forms of friendship and co-operation in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations. Affirming the role of the Commonwealth as a recognised intergovernmental champion of small states, advocating for their special needs; providing policy advice on political, economic and social development issues; and delivering technical assistance. Welcoming the valuable contribution of the network of the many intergovernmental, parliamentary, professional and civil society bodies which support the Commonwealth and which subscribe and adhere to its values and principles. Affirming the validity of and our commitment to the values and principles of the Commonwealth as defined and strengthened over the years including: the Singapore Declaration of Commonwealth Principles, the Harare Commonwealth Declaration, the Langkawi Declaration on the Environment, the Millbrook Action Programme, the Latimer House Principles, the Aberdeen Agenda, the Trinidad and Tobago Affirmation of Commonwealth Values and Principles, the Munyonyo Statement on Respect and Understanding, the Lake Victoria Commonwealth Climate Change Action Plan, the Perth Declaration on Food Security Principles, and the Commonwealth Declaration on Investing in Young People. Affirming our core Commonwealth principles of consensus and common action, mutual respect, inclusiveness, transparency, accountability, legitimacy, and responsiveness. Reaffirming the core values and principles of the Commonwealth as declared by this Charter. I table that document and have read it into Hansard that we all can be mindful of those basic principles. Thank you.

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black

Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left + Not at 2.22 cm

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Not Italic

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Normal, No bullets or numbering, Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left +

Formatted: Font: Arial, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Arial

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: Arial

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11 pt, Bold

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11 pt, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: English (Australia)

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black

MR SHERIDAN Thank you Mr Speaker, I table the **Revenue Fund Financial Indicators July and August 2013**. There's two months here Mr Speaker because we had an earlier sitting last month

MR SHERIDAN Thank you Mr Speaker, I so table under the Act Section 32B2 I am required to lay before this House any transfers of money between divisions, subdivisions or items so I lay on the table these directions which we know as **Virements** which have been made since they were last tabled in the House.

MR SHERIDAN Thank you Mr Speaker I table

Customs Duty Exemptions, "Daffodil Day" objects by Quota for \$98.40

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Speaker. Later this morning in statements I will be providing the House with an update on health and hospital initiatives. However in papers I now table the Report titled **The Review of existing child and family support services dated September 2012** which was published online on 22 July 2013 by the Department of Regional Australia, Regional development and local Government (DRALGAS). This Report which was prepared by Gillian Calvert AO and Marie Connolly Phd stemmed from a requirement at item 18 of the September 2011 Funding Agreement for Norfolk Island to work in partnership with the Commonwealth to further build its capability to provide children and family support services on Norfolk Island. The report now tabled is the outcome of the study undertaken to achieve this goal. Mr Speaker **I move that the paper be noted**. Mr Speaker, the terms of reference for the review were to Examine the current framework for family support and child protection services on Norfolk Island; Identify barriers and issues associated with the provision of effective children and family support services; Consider practices, procedures and resources within the Norfolk Island Government with direct responsibilities in this area, and also consider how the government and non-government organisation agencies might contribute to a more effective protection and support network; and Consider how the Norfolk Island Government can help to support children and young people to reach their potential and assist individuals and families who are at risk or in crisis. In considering the service needs of children and families living on Norfolk

~~Island the consultants took the following approach in undertaking the review — A desk review of available documents relating to the demographics of the Norfolk Island community, service statistics, earlier reviews and reports relating to the provision of Norfolk Island services; A series of community meetings that included a public meeting and meetings with specific interest groups; Meetings with Ministers in the Norfolk Island Government and the staff of the Norfolk Island Administration; Meetings with service providers across the sector; and Individual meetings with young people and families.~~

Formatted: Font color: Black

~~MRS WARD ————— Thank you Mr Speaker. Review of existing child and family support services on Norfolk Island — This report came about as a result of the Road Map and funding agreements. If we think back to 1979 the NIG was to provide a comparable standard of services to its community. And as recently as 6 weeks ago, the NIG re-affirmed its commitment to provide mainland standard services in Education and Health (new FAG). The reality is that the NIG does not and can not deliver to its community the standard of services that are required to be delivered by State and Territory governments and we all know that and understand why. It was as a result of such issues that the previous government sat down and worked out a plan with the Cwth on a revised way fwd for NI. The authors Marie Connolly and Gillian Calvert referred to people having multiple jobs and the effect that has on parenting. There is reference to families where someone had a disability or a mental illness, or where they were parenting alone and the challenge they faced and they noted that women had spoken to them of returning to work as soon as one week after giving birth. Perverse effects of the health insurance scheme (healthcare system that does not take into account someone's ability to pay) The authors noted — We have found the breadth, design and operation of the safety net and mutual obligation expressed through Norfolk Island's income support, taxation, health, and employment legislation and systems to be extremely limited by comparison to mainland Australia. This inadequate safety net is critically significant when seen in combination with the island's concentrated wage structure, high cost of living, increasing job insecurity, the absence of any social housing and the notably older age profile of Norfolk Island than that of the rest of Australia. Indeed the median age on Norfolk Island is 46, as compared to 37 in the rest of Australia. They also said — It was clear to us that Norfolk Island has a strong community spirit...” Several recommendations were made ... There were expected references to unhealthy levels of alcohol consumption, domestic violence and risky behaviour and what I noted was that during their time on Norfolk Island they heard of many instances of people feeling unsafe when they openly challenged issues. As a consequence we believe that informal hierarchies of power exist on the island that support cultures of intimidation and violence and that there is an atmosphere of fear that disables criticism. Unfortunately, this is something that I encounter on a regular basis and when I encourage people to stand up and say something — they will not, because they fear retribution. — That is why it is so important for Government and Administration to have their policies and procedures clearly identified — so that there is not question of us and them — it is one rule for all and everyone understands what those rules are. I also note from reading the Report that a few people on the island expressed their doubts that families were in fact confronting real hardship. We can also read that a few people have expressed a view that introducing a stronger safety net for families could undermine the strengths of self-reliance and the strong work ethic that underpins many of the values of Norfolk Island life. — We have heard those views expressed by one of our colleagues however am with the majority of people who expressed to Marie and Gillian the need to protect more vulnerable members of the Norfolk Island community in ways that are respectful of diverse needs, for example, ensuring humane responses when people lose their jobs, when they are affected by mental illness, or when they require specialist care. There are 7 recommendations but I will read — Recommendation 1. “Norfolk Island residents should within three years, become part of the same income security, employment, taxation, child support scheme and benefit systems as other Australian residents including eligibility requirements, processes and support and participation requirements. We recognise a staged implementation may be needed in some areas, for~~

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: No underline

~~example, early childhood education and care.” Delaying corrective action is likely to cause an exacerbation of the problems making them more difficult, and more expensive to solve in the future I do not intend to talk about the break down of what has or hasn’t occurred so far as a result of the recommendations. What I will do is acknowledge the work of the Office of the Administrator and the work that they have done with local community groups. The local community service group members and helpers are the unsung hero’s in what has been achieved to date in the area of social welfare, they sometimes very quietly to improve the lives of the most vulnerable people in our community and we should all remember our fate can change at any time and acknowledge those who are there to assist. In closing Mr. Speaker, I think that it is an opportune time to thank the soon to retire from Federal politics, the Hon. Simon Crean our previous Minister responsible for Territories. I thank him for his efforts and his acceptance that the NI community and its welfare is ultimately the responsibility of the Federal Government. There have been many reports and surly this one will insight change and result in a more secure future for Norfolk Island?~~

~~MR SHERIDAN Thank you Mr Speaker **Bookmakers and Betting Exchange Act 1998 – Report on statutory default**~~

~~MR SHERIDAN Thank you Mr Speaker **Gaming Act 1998 – Licence for Interactive Gaming Entertainment Pty Ltd**~~

~~MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Speaker **Immigration – Revocation of Policy**~~

~~MR SPEAKER Thank you. Any fFurther Ppapers Honourable Members. No, We move to Statements of an official nature, are there any statements this morning -~~

STATEMENTS

4)

~~MR WARD Thank you Mr Speaker, I have a couple of statements here. The first one as I alluded to in response to a question without notice asked earlier. Regional Development Australia Fund (RDAF) Project – **High Temperature Incinerator (HTI) & Cascade Jetty**. On the 7th December 2012, the Norfolk Island Administration submitted two Expressions of Interest for infrastructure projects under Rounds 3 and 4 of the Australian Government’s Regional Development Australia Fund (RDAF) program. One of those expressions of interest was for purchase and installation of a high temperature waste incinerator and a recycling press, the other was for the proposed Cascade Jetty upgrade. Both of the subsequent applications for this infrastructure funding were successful, and a funding agreement for the High Temperature Incinerator was signed between the Commonwealth and Norfolk Island governments on 8th July 2013. A Funding Agreement was not able to be signed for the RDAF4 extension and upgrade of Cascade Jetty before the Federal Government went into Caretaker mode. It is now at the discretion of the new government as to whether or not they commit to the project. The Norfolk Island Government is pursuing this as a matter of priority with the Commonwealth. With regard to the High Temperature incinerator project I provide the following background and update. A number of Development Applications have been lodged with the Norfolk Island Planning and Environment Board as follows:
DA 0031/12 – HTI to be located inside Waste Management Centre (WMC) was approved but approved was withdrawn following ART challenge.
DA 13/2013 – HTI to be located at Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP). The Norfolk Island Planning and Environment Board (NIPE Board) considered this DA and recommended that the proposal be deleted from consideration. This DA is on hold.~~

- Formatted: Font color: Black
- Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left + Not at 2.22 cm + 2.86 cm + 3.81 cm
- Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left
- Formatted: Font color: Black
- Formatted: Font: Not Bold
- Formatted: Font color: Black
- Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm
- Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm
- Formatted: Font color: Black
- Formatted: Font color: Black
- Formatted: Font color: Black
- Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, No bullets or numbering, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left + Not at 2.86 cm + 3.81 cm
- Formatted: Font: Arial, Font color: Black
- Formatted: Justified, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left
- Formatted: Font: Arial
- Formatted: Font: Not Bold
- Formatted: Font: Arial
- Formatted: Font: Arial
- Formatted: Font: Arial
- Formatted: Font: Arial
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, No underline
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, No underline
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

DA 14/2013 - HTI located outside Waste Management Centre (WMC) to the west of the waste management building. Planning assessment recommended approval; The Norfolk Island Planning and Environment Board recommended approval, subject to review of the recommended Instrument of Approval for more comprehensive conditions on air emissions management and oversight of the development by experienced EPA specialists. Two public submissions were received after the Norfolk Island Planning and Environment Board meeting: Issues raised were: 1. That the earlier ART ruling that there be no burning at WMC remains legally binding, that it can't be overridden except by Supreme Court and ART itself, and questions the legality of the proposal given that undertaking; and 2. Questions Environmental Impact Statement status, adequacy, and standard, particularly regarding potential public health impacts, information on potential emissions (content, management and monitoring); ash content and disposal. In summary, The Norfolk Island Planning and Environment Board decided at a subsequent meeting.: That the Administration, as the applicant, is to provide more information on the key areas identified in the submissions to supplement the existing EIS; i.e. Potential Air Emissions and Management and Consideration of Alternative Sites for the proposed High Temperature Incinerator. Board members and the objectors will be provided with that additional information for consideration. A meeting was held with the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) on Tuesday 23rd August 2013 with the following issues discussed: Whether operation of the High Temperature Incinerator, and potential change in temperature or humidity would make a measurable difference to instruments. Climate data at Norfolk Island is of great quality over a long period of time and the Bureau is keen to preserve that quality. They are doing assessments, looking at the potential temperature output of the incinerator, release points on the ground which is the release point of the heat. Comment was made that the higher the chimney the better. There may be an opportunity to specify the chimney height to meet BOM's needs. Location to the west of the WMC Shed is better for BOM, winds are predominantly from the south east. It has been suggested there be no burning on days when the wind is from the west as an option to protect BOM's operations. BOM can provide data to assist in air modelling / air emissions study / assessment. BOM is to prepare scenarios, modelling air flows, plume modelling and provide results to the Norfolk Island Administration. Under the RDAF Agreement, development approval (i.e. not a challengeable approval) must be obtained by 30 June 2014. The first Progress Report for the RDAF Agreement is due 31 January 2014 and the following milestone is expected to have been achieved: *Evidence acceptable to us that all requirements under item 3.1 of the Schedule have been met (preparation of the Progress Report) and the following have been achieved: Detailed and independently prepared project cost estimates.* The ultimate siting of the High Temperature Incinerator continues to polarize the various stakeholders. The concept of having to avoid burning when there is wind blowing from the west would be a serious impediment to efficiency. Placement at any of the possible Headstone sites would alleviate this issue but carries an operational cost that has to be factored in. I thank the members of the community who have made their concerns known and to those who have offered support and look to the Public Service to work through the issues and to advance this project as a matter of priority.

MR WARD Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker. **Norfolk Island Quarantine Survey Plant Pest Survey and Animal Survey.** The Commonwealth Government has provided funding for a Norfolk Island Quarantine Survey. The Plant Pest and Animal Survey will be conducted between 3 September and 30 October 2013. The Animal Survey is currently underway and is expected to conclude on 23 September. This survey comprises a broad range of tests across various animals including cattle, sheep, cats, chickens and ducks. Commonwealth Officers from Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry are on Island to conduct the tests in conjunction with Dr Candice Snell. The first spring plant pest survey will commence on 23 September and conclude on 26 October 2013. The follow additional information has been provided:

1. Commonwealth Operational Entomologists from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry will look at invertebrate plant pests
2. A representative from Plant Health Australia will set up a bee health monitoring system

- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, No underline
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, No underline
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial
- Formatted: Normal, Indent: Left: 0 cm, Hanging: 1.27 cm, Right: 0.95 cm, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, No bullets or numbering, Tab stops: 1.27 cm, Left + 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 2.86 cm + 16.51 cm
- Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left
- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11
- Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11
- Formatted: Indent: Left: 0 cm, Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: 1, 2, 3, ... + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.63 cm + Tab after: 1.27 cm + Indent at: 1.27 cm, Tab stops: Not at 1.27 cm
- Formatted: Bullets and Numbering

- 3. The Australian National Herbarium will undertake a botanical survey with focus on introduced plant species
- 4. Fungal Plant pathologists and non-fungal plant pathologists will undertake a survey of invertebrate plant pests.

The Director of the Norfolk Island Quarantine Survey, Dr Glynn Maynard is currently on Norfolk Island undertaking various activities including testing of bees for parasites to enable movement of material under permit back to Australia, and to set up culicoides traps and fruit fly traps. Thank you, Mr Speaker

MR BUFFETT Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker I have a statement in terms of Norfolk Island's participation in the Annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in South Africa. We stand in constant need, no more than at the present time, of a strong reliable and informed membership in this Legislative Assembly. The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) offers a unique a opportunity for Members professional development, and to be informed on parliamentary affairs, politics, economics and social aspects in circumstances and places, both near and far. Can I just provide some snippet of background to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. It is a well established organization inaugurated in 1911, so it's over 100 years that it's given service. The Queen is the Patron. I mention its age not that it not guarantees benefit but to show that it is not a fly by night, but has progressively built its credentials. Commonwealth Parliamentary Association represents currently 188 parliaments of the Commonwealth countries. These parliaments range from the largest India, Africa, United Kingston, to the smallest. Niue in the Pacific, Norfolk Island. The work undertaken to promote and advance its aims of good democratic governance and professional development of its membership, which include these things. Publicity for Parliamentarians. It publishes the Parliamentarian, published quarterly in full colour publication is attractive and well written. Norfolk Island has had articles published a number of times. It circulates to 188 parliaments of the globe and is now published online. So it's available in that context as well. I table a copy of that Mr Deputy Speaker. Members will have seen it because as Members they receive a copy, but in the context of this report it may be valuable. It has other publications that are involved in the Parliamentary course also. It involves itself in the professional development of its members, with Regional seminars and workshops on subjects such as Government and Opposition workshops, Public Accounts Committees and Parliamentary Staff Development. A range of things that assists the parliamentary process. They also assist research for Members. They also assist in the Commonwealth Women's Parliamentarians. They conduct parliamentary seminars, a major regular Commonwealth Parliamentary Service, Post Election Services, to offer guidance to incoming members post elections. Last year two were held, one in Saint Lucia and one in the Seychelles. The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association is involved obviously in a Youth Parliament in the UK and Commonwealth Day in the UK, and whilst I might say in the UK, I do point out that Norfolk Island has fielded representatives at both of those activities but there are obviously Norfolk island people who are already located in London who might have better access than we needing to meet the cost of sending someone. On our home scene Commonwealth Day observances are observed in our place here in Norfolk Island as it is observed in other branches throughout the Commonwealth and of course then there is the Annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, this year from 28 August to 6 September in Johannesburg, South Africa and I'll just mention a number of workshops held at that Conference so that you will see the breadth of the activities. There were workshops numbered A to H. A was about land access and ownership. Progress and challenges experienced by rural communities in accessing land. What can be the role in intervention of Parliamentarians. Should there be Parliamentary intervention in the formal economy and entrepreneurship sectors. The challenges of attaining the Millennium Development Goals. Inequitable resources sharing, a threat to democratic governments. Role of parliamentarians in the transfer of technology and research to boost agricultural productivity. Governing democratically in a techno empowered world and a particular subject in the Small Branches, separation of powers and good governance and the last one, population policy solutions for the caring of an aging population, so you will see a breadth of workshop activities, Norfolk Island

- Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left
- Formatted: Font: Arial, Bold, Font color: Black
- Formatted: Normal, Right: 0.95 cm, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, No bullets or numbering, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left + Not at 2.86 cm + 16.51 cm
- Formatted: Font: Not Bold
- Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left
- Formatted: Font: Not Bold
- Formatted: Font: Bold
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold
- Formatted: No underline
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold
- Formatted: No underline
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold
- Formatted: No underline
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold
- Formatted: Font: Not Bold
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold
- Formatted: Font: Not Bold
- Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold
- Formatted: Font: Not Bold

delegate in 2012, that is last year was Lisle Snell, now the Hon the Chief Minister. Hadyn Evans was Norfolk Islands Branch's delegate for 2013. Mr Deputy Speaker I also attended the Conference but my role has a difference because I'm a member of the Executive Committee of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Organisation. Organisationally the worldwide Commonwealth Parliamentary Association is divided into nine regions and they are these, the African region, Asia, Australia, British Islands and the Mediterranean, Canada, the Caribbean, Americans and Atlantic area, India, the Pacific and South East Asia. The nine regions. Norfolk Island is in the Australian region. The number of Branches in each region varies. It varies from eight in the Asia region to some 60 in the Africa region. In the Australia region of which we are a part there are currently nine branches. Each region sends three members to serve on the Executive Committee. The Africa region, that's the one with 60 members sends six members from their region. In the Australia region we rotate the service on the Executive Committee around the nine branches and Norfolk Island is currently serving its term on the Executive Committee in that context. The other two regional reps are Western Australia and the Act. That means the Hon Barry House, President of the Upper House in Western Australia and the Hon Vickie Dunne, Speaker of the ACT Legislative Assembly. The CPA Headquarters in London meets the cost of travelling the Executive Committee Members to its meetings. It meets twice a year. One of the meetings of course is of the annual CPA Conference. The Executive Committee participates in the Conference as well as conducting its own business. The Executive Committee is the executive body which runs the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. It oversees the finances, the programmes, it has two sub committees 1) the Finance Committee and the other Planning and Programming sub committee. Mr Deputy Speaker I table a report which is the Annual Report of the CPA for 2012. It's the last published report of the organization and it gives a good, in fact it is one of the few readable Annual Reports that you might find around so it is available in that context. May I just mention also because it's important to do so that the CPA has a group within it which relates to the smaller Branches of the organization and it too has an annual conference. It's a conference within a conference so to speak, held at the same time. The smaller Branches designation relates to those parliaments that serve an area with a population smaller than 500,000 and so this takes in most of the South Pacific parliaments plus places such as Cyprus, Gibraltar, Falklands, St Helena, Isle of Man. In the Australia region it covers the ACT, Tasmania, Northern Territory as well as Norfolk Island. Most of these places have at times experienced similar challenges that we face and the problems that we face. At the opening ceremony of the 33rd, because it's been now going to 33 years this small countries within the larger conference, I chaired the opening ceremony for the 33rd small branches conference of the CPA. I might say that Hadyn Evans spoke and spoke well at the 2013 gathering of the small branches organization. The money to be a CPA participant is limited but we have managed to allocate a modest sum in our meager budget. That is \$20,000 and that allocation has not impaired any essential services in Norfolk Island and this basically meets our annual CPA subscription. The subscription is 7,399 pounds UK. The Australian equivalent depends upon the exchange rate and it meets some associated CPA items. As explained earlier the principal cost of CPA attendance that is fares and accommodation to conferences such as I've just reported is met by CPA Headquarters London and fares to and from CPA Headquarters London and the accommodation where ever we meet is usually principally by the host Branch. As an important note I example three areas of benefit that I've gleaned from the Conference business discussions, in other words to broaden the information base that becomes available to us here in Norfolk Island and they relate to things that are relevant to us today. Education, Land and Telecommunications. I elaborate a little on each of those. Education. This came up in the Small Branches conference area, this subject. We all know that Norfolk Island has done exceptionally well in the education sphere. In other words of encouraging people to complete their secondary education and now in more modern times to undertake tertiary education so we've moved from an area where we've had little even secondary education to that now being fully available and available on Norfolk Island and now encouraging people to go and complete some tertiary studies. This particular discussion also pointed out that what is next required in that educational stream is not only people gain that education but they utilize it. They utilize it particularly

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Superscript

Formatted: Superscript

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

in our place. It's very clear that in our small situation the smallness may not allow everybody to fulfill their particular ambition, they may need to fulfill it everywhere, or somewhere else, but it may mean that they will bring benefit to this place so utilizing that which is got and it's interesting to talk with people who are experiencing the same, in this case, in these smaller places, for us to be able to relate it to Norfolk Island. The second point was land. We're talking about land now in the Norfolk Island cont ext. this was in one of the Plenary workshops. I remember Hadyn Evans participating in this also. I've got to say that this was more about the allocation of land which doesn't have the same reference in Norfolk Island. Norfolk Island's allocation probably took place principally 150 plus years ago with the grants of land within Norfolk Island but in more re cent times there have been allocations of land in the Crown leases of course but the next stage in all of that is to ensure that whatever land is available is actually utilised, not left to waste, whether it be in food production or other use s. Not left idle. But also to bear in mind that land is held not only by private individuals but by Government and so there is a Responsibility in the private area and in the public area for this utilization to take place. Interesting conversations and discussions to be a part of because they too will have relevance and this is about informing people who need to do service within Norfolk Island. The third area relates to telecommunications and this wasn't one of the workshops it was an opportunity to have discussions with out people in the Pacific region and the telecommunications discussions I'm referring to relates to the fibre optic cable that we know runs from California across to Honolulu, Fiji, New Zealand and then into Australia, that's the main line, but in this particular instance, Tonga was able to negotiate a spur off that particular telecommunications main line. They negotiated an arrangement with the World Bank and that may not be available to us but it shows that it can be done provided financing can be looked at . Their particular spur cost something like \$35m although the Tongan telecommunication organization needed to make a contribution as well but that provided fibre optic cable, the most reliable method of telecommunications to their place. Something that obviously if we are to foster some of the things in our place and for business, particularly in attracting the gaming fraternity to Norfolk Island we need to have reliability. That isn't to say that we don't utilize that which we have now which is satellite technology with New Zealand telecom at this moment and we're looking at O3B at this moment for some arrangements but all of that is in the mix of knowing what is around and using it to contribute. I just mention those things be cause I think that they are important to do so. Mr Deputy Speaker I want to conclude by saying this. In terms of benefit and I've endeavored to mention something that I think are around for u s, information of these activities aren't just handed to you on a plate. You must exercise initiative and you've got to do y our own research to seek out what is helpful to you place. The three I've mentioned I've exemplified for the 2013 occasion. I also have these daily bulletins for e ach day of the conference. I'm not going to table those but I make mention to Members because they're welcome to look at them if you have an interest. I compliment Members in their continuous interest in the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and their support of it

MR SNELL Mr Deputy Speaker could I move that the Statement be noted

DEPUTY SPEAKER The question is that the Statement be noted. Mr Snell

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker. I would just like to congratulate Mr Buffett on his contribution and his very detailed report and statement this morning to the House and to thank him personally and Mr Hadyn Evans for taking the opportunity to attend the CPA Conference and I'm sure those listening here this afternoon will appreciate the importance of the CPA in its application to governance here in Norfolk Island and I congratulate Mr Buffett and Mr Evans on attending

DEPUTY SPEAKER Further debate.

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 2.86 cm + 3.81 cm

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 2.86 cm + 3.81 cm

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

QUESTION PUT

AGREED

Are there any further Statements. We move on

~~MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Speaker. **Health, hospital and community initiatives and the opening of DCA Safe House on 3 August 2013.**~~

~~Earlier this morning I tabled the Report resulting from the review of existing child and family support services on Norfolk Island and of course this report cannot be considered in isolation of the Island's 5 year Health Services Plan currently being crafted and referred to further on in this statement.~~

~~Members will recall that at the July 2013 sitting of the House I advised that a review had been commenced within the Administration on the provision of health and related services. The review was raised as a point of interest at the July meeting of the Hospital Advisory Board with my giving an undertaking that the review would not be undertaken in isolation of the Norfolk Island Hospital Enterprise which is the Island's healthcare facility. The Hospital Enterprise is a corporate entity in its own right with its Vision being, and I quote –~~

~~“to work in partnership with the government and community of Norfolk Island to provide continuing improvement in the health of the community and the provision of sustainable, efficient and affordable health care”.~~

~~The Hospital Enterprise has as its Mission Statement –~~

~~“to promote, improve and care for the health of the Norfolk Island community including its residents and visitors”~~

~~In my statement today Honourable Members I will endeavour to give a brief overview of key activities that are being undertaken by or on behalf of the Hospital Enterprise in partnership with both the Norfolk Island Government and the Commonwealth Government in order to achieve the aims set out in its Vision and Mission Statement.~~

~~In the December 2012 Funding Agreement the Hospital was required to meet a number of milestones which include –~~

- ~~a) Commencing working towards a level of "Marked Achievement" in at least the 15 mandatory criteria of the Australian Council of Healthcare Standards (ACHS);~~
- ~~b) Norfolk Island Government collecting health statistics and publish quarterly, commencing June 2013, using formats and standards of other Australian health statistics, as set out by the Department and informed by Indian Ocean Territories Health Service.~~
- ~~c) Preparing a report that further examines what additional measures (legislative or operational procedures) might be implemented to enhance the efficient and effective delivery of health services on island, and~~
- ~~e) Norfolk Island Government publishing for the first time, health statistics, using formats and standards of other Australian health statistics, as set out by the Department and informed by the Indian Ocean Territories Health Service.~~

~~In March this year the Commonwealth Government provided \$100,000 to the Hospital Enterprise which entered into a Funding Agreement with the Commonwealth to achieve the following:~~

- ~~1. Delivery of the Island's five year Health Services Plan;~~
- ~~2. Advancement of the critical pathway towards accreditation of Island Health Services; and~~
- ~~3. Complementary adjustment to Norfolk Island Health legislation to achieve accreditation.~~

~~The Hospital Director has briefed me on how these projects are progressing.~~

~~Accreditation of Island Health Services~~

~~In December 2012 Ms Maria Christian RN, Quality Improvement Co-ordinator for the Hospital Enterprise conducted an Assessment of how the Hospital Enterprise currently~~

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Title, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left + 16.51 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black

Formatted: Title, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left + Not at 1.27 cm + 2.54 cm + 3.81 cm

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0 cm, Hanging: 0.63 cm, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Line spacing: single, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: Bold, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

measured against the Australian Council of Healthcare Standards (ACHS). The Hospital Advisory Board has received a report from ACHS on the results of the Self-Assessment NIHE conducted last December and work to attain the status of "marked achievement" in at least the 15 mandatory criteria of the ACHS are ongoing.

An educator with the ACHS visited between 8 and 12 July to conduct sessions with hospital staff on all the standards required in order to achieve a level of accreditation as required under the Funding Agreement. Support continues to be given weekly by the Clinical Governance Unit of South East Sydney Local Health District or SESLHD via teleconferences and emails.

A visit has been arranged through the Clinical Governance Unit of the SESLHD for a Clinical Nurse Consultant to visit for one to two weeks, possibly in September, to train clinical staff in aseptic techniques. This training is part of the process for meeting the mandatory criteria of the ACHS.

Health Service Plan for the Norfolk Island Hospital and Health Service

With the assistance of the SESLHD Planning & Population Health Unit a firm, Nexus Management Consulting, was engaged to develop the Health Services Plan. I had the opportunity to meet with the Nexus Consultants, Greg Masters and Jill Hardwick, at the end of their visit in the week 29 July to 2 August. During their visit they had broad ranging discussions with key personnel in the health service area on the Island across both government and community organisations. It is intended that the report furnished by Nexus Consultants will include a description of current services; detail of health services utilisation; list of issues affecting future health service delivery; recommendations for provision of services and a proposed plan for health services.

Complementary adjustment to Norfolk Island Health legislation to achieve accreditation

Following discussions between the Hospital Enterprise, SESLHD and the Department of Regional Australia a Local Government, Arts and Sport, Dr Tim Smyth was engaged in late April 2013 by the Hospital Enterprise to undertake a review of the Norfolk Island Health legislation. Dr Smyth has provided the Hospital Advisory Board with his June 2013 interim report which outlines a number of key findings. The interim report is to be considered by the Hospital Enterprise and the Advisory Board in the first instance. The next step is for there to be a multi-jurisdictional discussion involving the Norfolk Island, Commonwealth and NSW Governments to guide the next stage of the review.

Look forward to receiving comment from the Hospital Enterprise and the Advisory Board and to be able to table at the September sitting of the House the interim report and advice received.

Formatted: Font: Bold, Font color: Black

Opening of DCA8 House

~~Mr Speaker there is another significant initiative which I wish to acknowledge — this time a community initiative — namely the DCA8 community supported and managed safe house which formally opened on Saturday 3 August 2013.~~

~~In opening DCA8 I paid tribute on behalf of the Norfolk Island Government to Mrs Vicky Jack, our Child Welfare Officer, who had the initial idea many years ago and has, with the assistance of so many generous, caring people, too numerous to mention, turned this idea into a reality.~~

~~Honourable Members this project is yet another demonstration of how this community can pull together in times of need to achieve great things when called upon to do. The Norfolk Islander in reporting on the opening used the following words in their report, and I quote—~~

~~“DCA8 is a novel service, a local solution, meeting a need and providing a service which works here on Norfolk Island” and I am sure all Members here this morning join me in wishing the ongoing management team of volunteers tasked to manage this project well in their future endeavours.~~

MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

Message No 6 from the Office of the Administrator, on 5th August 2013, under section 22 of the *Norfolk Island Act 1979*, Her Excellency the Governor-General declared her assent to the following Act: **Tourist Accommodation** (Amendment No 2) Act 2012 (Act No 12 of 2013) and this Message from the Office of the Administrator is dated the 21st August 2013 and signed Neil Pope, Administrator.

Message No. 7 from the Office of the Administrator, on 27th August 2013, acting pursuant to section 21 of the *Norfolk Island Act 1979*, I declared my assent to the following proposed laws passed by the Legislative Assembly: **Marine Safety** (Amendment) Act 2013 (Act No 13 of 2013) and **Marine Safety** (Amendment No. 2) Act 2013 (Act No 14 of 2013) and signed Neil Pope, Administrator

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Are there any Reports of Standing Committees? No,

1) Minister for Finance, Mr Sheridan — Update on Sporting activities during August 2013

MR SPEAKER — As there are no Messages from the Office of the Administrator nor Reports of Standing Committees we move on

NOTICES

PUBLIC SECTOR MANAGEMENT ACT 2000 - APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MR SNELL Mr Deputy Speaker this motion is the final step in appointing a Chief Executive Officer for the Norfolk Island Administration. Mr Gibbons was the preferred applicant and travelled to Norfolk Island in July to give a presentation to Members of the Legislative Assembly. That presentation formed the final component of the assessment process by the select ion panel of the short listed applicants. Previously Mr. Gibbons was the Deputy Chief Executive Officer Corporate of the Whitsunday Regional Council, Chief Executive Officer of the Carpentaria Shire Council,

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Line spacing: single, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left
Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold, Font color: Black

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0 cm, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Superscript

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Superscript

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: English (Australia)

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: Bold

Formatted: Bullets and Numbering

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font: Bold, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Heading 1,Section Heading,Paragraph Bail, Indent: Left: 0 cm, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Director of Health and Environment of Bowen Shire Council and Manager Development Services Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the Shire of Wangan Mallindoo in Western Australia. Mr Gibbons holds a Master of Business MBA UNE, Graduate Diploma in Urban and Regional Planning, UNE, Graduate Diploma of Local Government Management, Deakin, Bachelor of Applied Science, Environmental Health Curtin, Graduate Mt Eliza Senior Leadership Programme, Melbourne Business School, Diploma of Project Management and is currently completing a Graduate Diploma of Accounting. Mr Gibbons has indicated that he can commence in early October, that is next month, and I have provided his CV and other details to Members. I move that for the purpose of section 38 of the *Public Sector Management Act 2000*, this Legislative Assembly recommend that Mr Jonathan Paul Gibbons be appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Public Service for a term not exceeding 5 years to be determined under the conditions of appointment specified in a written agreement made in accordance with section 40 of the *Public Sector Management Act 2000*. I have relayed a little of the details of appointment and I do state that a CEO performance plan of ten weeks of the commencement date will be compiled to inform Mr Gibbons of deliverable programmes and they will be detailed. Mr Gibbons comes to Norfolk Island with a very impressive portfolio of achievements and I recommend the motion to the House. Thank you Mr Speaker

MR NOBBS Thank you Mr Speaker, I would like to congratulate Mr Gibbons on his selection and I support the proposal by the Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism, Mr Snell that he be appointed to the job. I just want to make a couple of points if I may in relation to the process that we undertook. The first one is this, that I was impressed, we had the final three candidates, they all gave impressive presentations and it must have been a difficult task for the panel to come up with a final person. I would like to thank those who did not achieve their wishes, thank them very much for their efforts and hope that they have better luck next time. One particular point that I would like to make is that I was aghast prior to the actual selection process being put in place, the demand by the Commonwealth and I don't know whether it was the Commonwealth Government of the time or their representatives, but the demand that they have a Member of their Commonwealth staff or a representative from the Commonwealth to put it more clearly, on the selection panel. I was aghast because I thought that self government arrangements would override this sort of caper and as a result that I did complain at the time but it was of no use. So that's my first point. The second point is that there was some doubt as to what the actual financial return to the person who may gain the job and I think that in future times this has to be fairly clear, concise and open prior to the selection process actually commencing. Apart from those two piece of issues that I just want to get off my chest, I would like to congratulate Mr Gibbons and thank the other who were not successful for putting their hands up because it was essential that we get more than one applicant and I think we got quite a few and I think that was a good result in that regard. Thank you Mr Speaker

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Speaker I would like to thank Mr Nobbs for his comments and also to thank the selection panel Members for their great contribution and dedication to the achievement of the selection process of the CEO of the Public Service. It's a thankless task, it's one with no remuneration, it has great responsibilities and their diligence in this matter is certainly appreciated by the Government

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker for me just to add to that as well and thanking the Commonwealth for their involvement in the process. It certainly doesn't offend me at all. We are currently in a contractual agreement. This is about expenditure of public money to which they are propping up our budget. Everybody knows that, so I would just like to state for the record that I welcome the input of the Commonwealth on the selection panel and congratulate the panel on what we all know can be a very difficult tasks. The salary question is an interesting one. It's raised by Mr Nobbs. What has been appropriated in this house as a base salary for the CEO was \$90,000. That was part of the Chief Minister's austerity measures. It's something that I know four

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Members of this House in particular questioned at the time that it was not a prudent decision and what we've been told by the Chief Minister now is that the base salary has escalated to \$130,000 and then there's a package on top of that which may take it closer to \$140-150,000 which was closer to what the previous Chief Executive Officer was on so while I have no problem with that, there will be a budget impact that everybody should be aware of. The appointment of Mr Jon Gibbons that we're being asked to support will have my full support. I will be interested in the performance plan which he is given which will detail the deliverables. There's obviously what is on the table as part of the budgeted programmes but it will be interesting to see how anything else is prioritized. We seem to be constantly reacting to issues that raise their heads at the moment, so it's going to be difficult for him. I would certainly like to see a guarantee in words and I'm sure it will be forthcoming from every Member of the House to support the new Chief Executive Officer of the Administration and that in no way will his integrity be questioned, that we all have a very good understanding of the Public Service Bill at this stage that will be enacted shortly we are all hoping, and so that there can be no misunderstanding of the Chief Executive Officer's role in the future. The Chief Minister has my support, Thank you Mr Speaker

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Speaker. I'll be brief I have yet to have the pleasure of meeting Mr Gibbons. I wasn't here for the meeting where he spoke with Members and I look forward to welcoming him to Norfolk Island in the near future

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0 cm, Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0 cm, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: English (U.S.)

MR PORTER Thank you Mr Speaker I was the unfortunate Member of the panel that made way for the Commonwealth Financial Officer but having said that, I agree with Mrs Ward, I had no hesitation in standing down although some personal matters with the loss of my father would have precluded me from probably completing my tenure in any event, but suffice to say that having been involved right to the preliminary short listing and have the benefit of being in the House when the three short listed candidates present, I've got every confidence in the committee's choice in Mr Gibbons and I reiterate the comments earlier that I think that it's beholden of this House to support this person in this quite stormy sea of change we find ourselves and also I mentioned earlier in questions without notice, the opportunity for us to embark on a new path forward with the new Public Service Bill, the new legislation that we of the House will make our best endeavours to support an obviously practitioner of contemporary governance, we have managed to be fortunate enough to engage to take us forward in this role, so I support the appointment

MR EVANS Thank you Mr Speaker I support the applicant Jon Gibbons and I was fortunate to be here at his presentation and I certainly wish him well and certainly hope that his path isn't as rocky as some that have gone there and hopefully everyone supports him

MR WARD Thank you Mr Speaker I would just like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the superb effort that the Acting CEO has put in on this situation since the last CEO departed the position. Wayne Richards has given us a superb performance and really appreciate his efforts and I would like it recorded here. Thank you

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Speaker and may I also echo those words of Minister Ward in respect of the acting CEO who has performed an amazing task in a difficult time. Thank you Mr Speaker

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0 cm, Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Speaker. It is certainly remiss of me not to have mentioned the sterling effort by the Acting CEO in his position in the last few months that he has taken it on with gusto, professionalism and his experience within the position has certainly been greatly appreciated by this Office and the Norfolk Island Government

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11 pt, Not Bold

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

~~NORFOLK ISLAND GOVERNMENT TOURIST BUREAU ACT 1980 – APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER AND CHAIRPERSON~~

~~MR SNELL~~ ————— Mr Speaker, I move that this House in accordance with section 4 of the *Norfolk Island Government Tourist Bureau Act 1980* recommends to the Minister that he re-appoint Michael Perkins to be a member of the Norfolk Island Government Tourist Bureau Advisory Board for the period of two years commencing 9 September 2013 and that he be Chairperson of the Tourist Bureau Advisory Board for that period.

SPEAKER Any further final debate? Honourable Members we have concluded debate in respect of this motion. I put the question that the motion be agreed to

QUESTION PUT
AGREED

That motion is so agreed

~~NOMINATION OF ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER~~

~~Before I move to Notice No 2 Honourable Members I advise you that I have signed an instrument which is entitled Nomination of Acting Deputy Speaker and I have nominated David Raymond Porter to act as Deputy Speaker when occasions may arise~~

~~to~~

~~NORFOLK ISLAND GOVERNMENT TOURIST BUREAU ACT 1980 – APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER~~

~~MR SNELL~~ ————— Mr Speaker, I move that this House in accordance with section 4 of the *Norfolk Island Government Tourist Bureau Act 1980* recommends to the Minister that he appoint Anita Toni French to be a member of the Norfolk Island Government Tourist Bureau Advisory Board for the period of two years commencing 9 September 2013.

~~SPEAKER~~ ————— Any further debate? I put the question that the motion be agreed to

QUESTION PUT
AGREED

~~That motion is agreed to~~

PROTECTION OF MOVABLE CULTURAL HERITAGE ACT 1987

~~MS ADAMS~~ ————— Thank you Mr Speaker I move that in accordance with section 9 of the *Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1987*, this House recommends to the Minister that **Eve Semple** be re-appointed as a member of the Norfolk Island Cultural Heritage Committee for the period 18 September 2013 to 25 August 2017. Thank you Mr Speaker. I would just like to offer my warm thanks to Mrs Semple for having agreed to be reappointed to this committee which fulfils a very important role for Norfolk Island. Thank you ~~accordance with section 9 of the *Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1987*, this House recommends to the Minister that Beryl Phyllis Evans and Rhonda Evelyn Griffiths be re-appointed as members of the Norfolk Island Cultural Heritage Committee for the period 26 August 2013 to 25 August 2017.~~

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 7 cm

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Justified, Indent: Left: 0 cm, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm

Formatted: Justified, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

~~Honourable Members the appointment of—~~

- ~~_____ Eve Semple~~
- ~~_____ Rhonda Evelyn Griffith~~
- ~~_____ Beryl Phyllis Evans and~~
- ~~_____ Neil Tavener~~

~~Honourable Members the Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act deals with the protection of movable cultural heritage of Norfolk Island, namely, objects that are of importance to Norfolk Island for ethnological, archaeological, historical, literary, artistic, scientific or technological reasons. The Act categorises the objects which fall within the meaning of the Act.~~

~~The appointment of members of the Norfolk Island Cultural Heritage Committee under the Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1987 expires on 25 August and before speaking to the motion proper I would like on your behalf to thank Mr Neil Tavener for his years of community and voluntary service on the Committee. Mr Tavener is not seeking re-appointment at this time.~~

~~Honourable Members Mrs Semple is off Island at the moment and I have yet been unable to seek her agreement to re-appointment. I trust that she will continue in this valuable role.~~

~~In the meantime Honourable Members I have brought to the House this morning the re-appointment of Beryl Phyllis Evans and Rhonda Evelyn Griffith as members of the Norfolk Island Cultural Heritage Committee for the period 26 August 2013 to 25 August 2017 and seek your endorsement of their re-appointment.~~

SPEAKER
be agreed to

Any further debate? I put the question that the motion

QUESTION PUT
AGREED

That motion is so agreed ~~to~~

CUSTOMS ACT 1913 - EXEMPTION FROM PAYMENT OF CUSTOMS DUTY

MR SHERIDAN Mr Speaker I move that under subsection 2B(4) of the Customs Act 1913, this House recommends to the Administrator that the goods specified in column 1 of the Schedule imported by the person specified in column 2, and on the conditions mentioned in column 2 of the Schedule, be exempted from duty. The

<u>SCHEDULE</u>	
<u>Column 1</u>	<u>Column 2</u>
<u>Goods</u>	<u>Importer/conditions</u>
<u>Scratch Score Cards</u>	<u>Norfolk Assists Those In Need Inc (NATIN Inc)</u>
<u>- amount of duty applicable \$211.08</u>	<u>Conditions: Nil</u>

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE NO. 19 RELATING TO IMMIGRATION

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker, I move I move that the House take note of Minister Adams' answer to Question on Notice (number 19) asked at

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left
Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm
Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm
Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11
Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left
Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm
Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11
Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11 pt, Not Bold
Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11 pt, Not Bold
Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left
Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11 pt, Not Bold
Formatted: Font: 11 pt
Formatted: Font: Not Bold

~~the 17 July 2013 sitting of the House relating to the immigration website. The question related primarily to the need for Australian and New Zealand citizens to have onward air-tickets. I will lead off by saying Mr. Speaker that this matter is in the process of being resolved however I felt that it was important to briefly speak to the motion in order to provide information to the listening community who is interested in immigration matters. It is important to me give the community an assurance that their elected representatives uphold the law and that the Minister will ensure that policy changes are implemented by the CEO of the Public Service and that if uncertainty exists, that it is clarified. Minister Adams has tabled a document titled "Discussion Paper on airline ticket policy, 13th August 2013". The first statement that the paper makes is this; "Currently there is a long standing requirement for persons other than residents to have means for onward travel from NI or to have lodged a cash bond in lieu." Question is, "should this requirement continue?" As I said this has been resolved now, but the problem was that this statement about an ongoing requirement for persons other than residents had been made null and void when the Immigration changes were assented to on the 24th of May and the changes were reflected in the New Policy and Guidelines Published on the 2nd of July. The change reflected at section 14A (4) of the Act clearly shows that "The holder of an unrestricted entry permit has the same rights under any enactment as the holder of a general entry permit...". That means that now — only a TEP (FN) needs to be considered for an onward ticket for travel out of NI. Australian and NZ citizens can travel to NI, just as we can travel to Australia or New Zealand on a one way ticket. Can I just note that any risks associated with that were analysed and identified to the Commonwealth officers last year. Where I first became aware that the changes were not being implemented was when the Immigration website went live at the end of July which led to my Question on Notice No. 19. We know that Minister Adams didn't need to bring this question to us — what she needed to do was insist that the changes were implemented based on clearly articulated and documented changes — both to the law and the policy — but the Minister did bring it to us and just so that the listening community is aware — there was strong support for the airfare issue to be clarified and that it should be removed — as is and was originally intended for Australian and NZ citizens. We have been assured by the Minister that DIAC will be update its Fact Sheet 59~~

- ~~□ TIM (ground handlers and travel agents)~~
- ~~□ Website will be update~~
- ~~□ people who are entitled to receive a cash bond refund will do so and I trust that this will happen... there may be some time delay?~~

~~Coming back to the answer provided by Minister Adams to my Question on Notice No. 19. Clearly it was materially wrong but — I now trust that the Minister will see that the immigration department requirements are updated. So I hope that we have managed to clear a few things up, for everyone involved. In closing - if we believe that immigration, investment and growth are key elements in our economic recovery, then we must continue to do everything we can to remove barriers and create flexibility across the board and make the recovery happen and I appreciate that takes some change in thinking.~~

~~MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Speaker~~

~~SPEAKER Thank you, An~~

~~**Paper tabled:** Minister for Cultural Heritage and Community Services, Ms Adams
Immigration – Discussion Paper on airline ticket policy~~

~~SPEAKER Any further debate? I put the question that the motion be agreed to~~

QUESTION PUT
AGREED

That motion is so agreed

Formatted: Bullets and Numbering

Formatted: Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Adjust space between Asian text and numbers, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

That completes Notices Honourable Members. We are now at Orders of the Day

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

ORDERS OF THE DAY

CUSTOMS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2013

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

We are resuming debate on the question that the Bill be agreed to in principle. Minister Sheridan please

MR SHERIDAN Thank you Mr Speaker. If we could see if we can deal with the Customs Amendment today. Mr Speaker this has been a couple of months in the making, this Customs Amendment Bill, and it was part of our Appropriate Bill as you may remember. We had been awaiting the Regulatory Impact Statement to be finalised and that has been done and I apologise to Member who have only received this in the last few days. I don't know if any body has any queries in regards to the impact statement but I will foreshadow that I do have a detail stage amendment that I would like to talk to after this preliminary stage is completed. So I think I'll just leave it at that and I'll talk to it at the detail stage.

Formatted: Justified, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left + Not at 1.27 cm

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

SPEAKER Honourable Members bear in mind that at this stage we are looking at the question that the Bill be agreed to in principle. We are not yet at the detail stage. Once we tidy that we can then proceed if that is how you wish to do so. So it's the matter of principle at this time. Further debate

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

MR NOBBS Thank you Mr Speaker I've got a mix of papers and I thought we were dealing with the 18% to 12%. What are we actually dealing with. I've got one which then goes to \$100,000 or 12% if it's \$100,00 or more then we've got a schedule 2 Item 6, then we've got a description of goods, 'Any bus or other motor vehicle designed or intended', what are we actually looking at Minister Sheridan, which one

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: English (U.S.)

MR SHERIDAN Thank you Mr Speaker at the moment the Bill that is being discussed is the Customs Amendment Bill 2013 which deals with the item 1 Schedule 1 by increasing the rate expressed there from 12% to 18% which it repeals one specific amount set out in paragraph 2(a)(1)(d) of the Act and replaces it with a general provision that refers to amounts to be described by Regulation. That was the original Bill that was tabled. That's exactly what we're talking to at this point in time. The matters that you have mentioned there Mr Nobbs is matters that I've circulated that I intend to deal with through the detail stage amendment which I'm sure that you are quite well aware of the procedures of this House

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

MR NOBBS I'm not at all aware of it because I got some yesterday which we discussed I think at yesterday's MLA's meeting and then last night I got another one which is something to do with a bus so that's what I'm asking, what are we actually dealing with and has these sort of amendments that you proposed and have circulated, and there doesn't seem to be any statement, regulatory impact statement on the last ones that you proposed. That's where my concern is and I wonder how many in the community actually knows what's going on

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

MR SHERIDAN Thank you Mr Speaker I might need to talk to the detail stage amendment a little bit because of what Mr Nobbs' is talking about. The detail stage amendment that I provided to Members yesterday morning was an amendment to the original Bill which put a cap on the increase of the duty of 18%. It provided for goods that are imported by an individual to the value of \$100,000 to be rated at 18% duty. Thereafter the dutiable rate would remain at 12%. That was the detail stage amendment

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

that I provided yesterday morning of which I was going to speak to after this process was dealt with. The other matter that late yesterday afternoon there was an outstanding matter from the last Government and it was to do with regards to the importation of buses and the dimensions. The dimension of buses is actually in two places. It's contained in the Customs Act and it's also contained in the Traffic Regulations and the Traffic Act and it's been a long sought after change that it be removed from the Customs Act so that the Traffic regulations are the only place where these dimensions are referred to. It doesn't change and this is why the impact statement doesn't refer to it because there is no need because it doesn't change anything. All it does is remove the dimensions from the Customs Act but they remain in the Traffic Regulations so when and if the Traffic regulations are to be amended that is the time for the impact statement. But it was very confusing to have both of these dimensions of buses in two separate parts of legislation and that was the request from the Public Service to make things simpler by only having it relate to one. The Customs Act will still relate to the buses as being a prohibited import and that's where this schedule 2 comes into it, where it refers to buses, it used to refer to buses and the dimensions. It will now refer to and it's in the prohibited schedule, that's what schedule 2 is, it's prohibited items, it will refer it to for buses or similar vehicles that is used for carrying passengers that exceed the dimensional weight or capacity permitted for registration under the traffic act or the regulations. So that would still apply. Nothing changes all we're doing is removing it from the Customs Act to simplify things so we don't have two pieces of legislation referring to the same matter which does confuse things in some way. So in the customs Act under section 5©(a) it refers to applications for approval to import buses. That doesn't change. You still have to apply to the Collector for the importation of buses and he must be satisfied that those buses make the dimensions and criteria as set out in the Traffic Regulations. It's just that when we had to change, or when there was a want to change the dimensions of the buses that are being imported for our tourists satisfaction for our tourist industry, we had to go to the House to change the Act. Now we'll be able to do that through regulations, a much simpler process. Especially considering that the customs Act is a schedule 3 matter so that is why late yesterday afternoon I asked the Legal Services Unit to place in my detail stage amendment virtually the removal under the Customs Act for the dimensions of buses importation, leaving it to the Traffic Regulations to manage. So as I said in my email, I apologise for the late notice, but it was a long outstanding matter and it came to a head yesterday afternoon and I agreed to try and put it with the customs Bill that we had in the House at this stage, instead of coming back next month with another Bill. So I hope that explains it all

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

MR NOBBS It does explain it more but the issue is really that what I was concerned about was the original going back some time, to the original requirements that were put in place and I think they've been changed or something since then, I'm not too sure, but it was when we had 40,000 people, we had 2,200 actually residing on the Island, we had big buses going toe to toe carrying these people, we had cars, hire cars galore floating around the place, these were the good old days, plus the locals. We had a traffic problem which raised itself and strongly in the community as people will remember, and that's why a requirement was put in to reduce the size of these buses that were actually allowed on the road without wiping out the existing large ones. It means that there were to be no more big buses. Until there was a change in the infrastructure available on the Island viz the roads. If we were going in for this additional number of tourists which we were looking at trying to get above 40,000 was that there would be a need for a change in the road and they would have to be planned for and implemented over time. Well that hasn't happened so my concern was, are we going in to something that the community expressed very strong sentiments with at the time and therefore the Legislative Assembly took some action and I was wondering, not really Tim, but was there one on the boat. But I know that you wouldn't do that to us, so here we go. But anyhow I would be happy for this but I think that I would like to make sure that the community knows what it's really all about and so if it's not a hardship could there be a deference to the next meeting.

Formatted: English (U.S.)

MR SHERIDAN Thank you Mr Speaker and just in response to that Mr Nobbs, as I've said this amendment does not change the requirement under law for the importation of buses the law is still there. For larger or for heavier buses to be imported we would have to change the bus dimensions as are in the traffic regulations. At the moment they cannot be registered. This as you said, no I don't have one on the ship, but there is one tour operator on the island who has had two buses on the wharf in New Zealand for virtually twelve months wishing to import them because he cannot satisfy his requirement for his business with smaller buses because they just don't make them with sufficient carrying capacity within our dimensions at this point. That was the objective of the intent to change the dimensions and that will come up for further debate when we look at the Regulations and then it would actually be with Minister Ward in his area. All this does today is remove it from the Act so that we don't have it in two places and then it is much easier to accommodate people who are interested in the economy of Norfolk Island to provide a visitors' experience that they now can import some more buses, some newer buses which satisfies their requirements, the dimensions that are actually in the Customs and the Traffic Acts actually, nobody makes buses like those anymore unless they're a small twelve seater. The buses that I think this importer was looking at would carry something like 34/35 people which isn't a great number, but they just don't make the buses to fit those dimensions that satisfy our tourism industry. I think we have an obligation as a Government to ensure that if we want to promote our tourist industry that we provide the facilities for them to do that. We provide the tools. Now should we restrict the size of buses down to say mini bus size, purely because we don't have the capacity as a Government to maintain our roads in the proper way. I think it should be the other way around., We should be forcing our Administration through the Government to improve our roads so that our tourist industry can keep pace with what's required by our visitors and their expectations. I think we should have to provide proper roads, good roads, and it's unfortunate that we haven't been able to provide this in the last few years because it's always one of the first things that gets dropped out when we have a tight budget but we should be ensuring in the future that our roads do get improved and to the degree that they can satisfy the requirements of business people on this island to satisfy our visitors who come here for their enjoyment and which provides everybody's livelihood. But today's removal out of that schedule 2 or its rewording of it, it removes the dimensions and then it refers you to the Traffic Act which has the dimensions in it, so its not changing anything, all it does is points them to the Traffic Regulations in stead of under the Customs Act to make it a bit more easier, because we've been trying to get this to the House the last six or eight months, this change, and its just never got there so at least I won't have to speak to the explanatory memo now Mr Speaker

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + 6.35 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11 pt, English (U.S.)

Formatted: English (U.S.)

MR PORTER Thank you Mr Speaker I agree wholeheartedly with the Minister for Finance, that if we can take impediments away from an inappropriate place in our legislation we can have the argument of the size of the buses for another day but to remove it from being prohibition by stealth and to bring this matter out there, where it can be debated in the appropriate place, I do happen to agree with the economy's of scale. We can't be an Island in the ocean in terms of our economy's of scale. All of our neighbours provide buses of a modern size and quality and we won't be able to compete in a market where we will force an operator to carry only 20 people when all of our neighbours probably carry 40. There are some limitations I agree with our infrastructure but I agree with the Minister for Finance, it's up to us to deal with the infrastructure otherwise we won't need new roads at all. We won't be here. Thank you Mr Speaker

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

SPEAKER Any further debate? The debate is on the question that the Bill be agreed to in principle

MR WARD Thank you Mr Speaker just to clarify for the benefit of Mr Nobbs particularly, I was made aware of this bus issue early on coming into this Legislative Assembly and my initial reaction to it was that the bigger buses, if we were going to embrace the cruise ship industry as is so regularly spoken of now, that it is of benefit for us to have that size of bus operating rather than the smaller ones, so I just

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

say that because it will be of relevance to us when this debate comes up. Thank you Mr Speaker

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

MR NOBBS I would just like to cut in here because I'm not against the big buses and I'm not against the issues about us being responsible for the roads but just I want to know because I thought it could have been seen by the members of the community as an issue of pushing that thing through and that's why I was concerned and I was asking from the kick off if you would defer and ensure that the community had an understanding of where we are actually going, but I think I got it out of you already and so as far as this is concerned, the only other issue of course and I don't want to be picky, is that the changes to Bills comes through the House and the other ones can be done on the side and slip through unless they are picked up as a disallowable instrument. I think we've got to be very open on all this sort of thing and whilst there are issues about vehicles and it was a huge issue years ago and it was a huge issue from the community and also from one or two of the tour bus operators and that was the way it went but if you can assure the community that they can be controlled at the present time, I've got no worry with it. Nor have I got worries with the value of the \$100,000 or more if we are going through the whole lot

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker if I may come back to the motion that we are debating at this time it's the increase of the rate in Schedule 2 from 12% to 18% in schedule 1 so this part does not relate to food items, it relates to other items and goods being used in the preparation or etc. I think that the Minister has already covered that adequately previously. This part of the Bill I do intend to support and I think just a word to the people who are generally struggling in our community on this one, is to let them know that those people who use the internet to purchase groceries to manage their day to day living costs, that these people will not be effected by this change. They'll actually have a greater advantage and that as the Minister knows, is something that I have questioned. I have questioned the prudence of that decision but I do acknowledge the work of the mind the service who have gone the extra mile to try and extract those figures. I do appreciate that what I'm asking would be a mammoth task, but I think that if we have to continue to use our limited taxation system for the foreseeable future, but that we have to use what's available to us in the most effective way, so that's all I'll say at this stage of the motion on the Bill. Thank you Mr Speaker

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Speaker on the question of the buses...

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left +

SPEAKER No. No. Minister

MS ADAMS You don't want me to go there?

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm

SPEAKER No. No. We've been there too many times already. The question before us is not about buses. The question before us is about agreeing to the Bill in principle. When we have the amendment then you can talk about that if you so wish to talk about it

MS ADAMS I wasn't planning to talk about it Mr Speaker. May I turn to the question that the Bill be agreed to in principle and discuss that there. I will just make the point that there has been robust discussion in Cabinet around this Customs Bill and the setting of a threshold which we finally agreed on this week. Prior to that, Members know my view, that you can't tax a depressed economy into prosperity and until that threshold was put in place and I was satisfied that the change as Mrs Ward has just rightly point out, would not have an adverse impact on the importers, in fact, they're going to be somewhat advantaged with the increasing of the threshold and the capping of the amount. After having had representation from within the community I was surprised to receive that representation and to have support for the increase from within

the community provided it was capped so that potential investors into this community weren't potentially disadvantaged and so I was able to find a compromise between not taxing into prosperity but ensuring that we look at the large investors coming in, that we are not disadvantaging them any more than is necessary. On that basis, if I may, I will support the Bill in principle

SPEAKER Any further debate? I'm going to put the question Honourable Members that the Bill be agreed to in principle. Then we will move on to the detail stage

QUESTION PUT

AGREED

The ayes have it Honourable Members. We move now to the detail stage and I turn to you Minister Sheridan please

MR SHERIDAN Thank you Mr Speaker, I move that That clause 4 of the Bill be amended by – Substituting for subclause (b)–

“(b) For Item 1 of the Schedule substitute in each column as follows –

‘1. All goods not included in any succeeding Items being –

(a) valued at less than \$100,000– 18%

(b) valued at \$100,000 or more 12%.’ ”; and

2. By adding the following subclause–

“(c) From Schedule 2 repeal all the words of Item 6 in the column headed ‘Description of goods’ and insert –

‘Any bus or other motor vehicle designed or intended to be used principally for carrying passengers which exceeds one or more of the dimensions, capacity, or weight permitted for registration under the *Traffic Act 2010* and Regulations.’ ”

Mr Speaker, I therefore move. Mr Speaker I would also like to table a new Explanatory Memorandum to the Bill which includes the detail stage amendments and I will read it because it may add some clarity. It is dated 17 September 2013

“The principal purpose of the Bill is to increase the rate of duty on a lower value range of Schedule 1 Items from 12% to 18% while retaining the existing level of 12% on those of higher value. The opportunity has been taken to amend the provisions of paragraph 2A(1)(d) that has caused confusion. As originally established it set out a rate that could be amended by regulation. The Bill therefore removes the statement of an amount in the paragraph and substitutes “amounts prescribed by regulation” thereby ensuring that the rates are to be found only in the regulations.

This Bill further seeks to tie provisions of the Act to the *Traffic Act 2010*. At present the criteria for prohibition of the importation of motor vehicles used for passenger carriage is set out in the *Customs Act 1913*: the same criteria is used in the Traffic regulations to determine whether such vehicles can be registered for use on the roads.

In the past difficulties have arisen when these restrictions have been different. To avoid this happening again and avoid having to make changes to both laws in future should it become possible to allow buses with greater weight or size measurements, this Bill seeks to tie the criteria for prohibition of importation to a vehicle meeting the criteria for registration.

The Bill in the first 3 clauses provides for the short title, the commencement and reference to the enactment being amended.

Clause 4 amends the principal Act –

- paragraph (a) repeals the specific amounts set out in paragraph 2A(1)(d) of the Act and replaces it with a general provision that refers to amounts to be prescribed by regulation;

- paragraph (b) amends Schedule 1 by changing the rate of duty for goods not included under other items to 18% where the value of the goods as declared under

Formatted: Justified, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Bullets and Numbering

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: Arial

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Arial

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Arial

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: Arial

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Justified, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Bullets and Numbering

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Line spacing: single

the Act is less than \$100,000 and retains the present duty of 12% for all goods so valued at \$100,000 or more;

- paragraph (c) amends the prohibition description for buses in Item 6 of Schedule 2 to the Act so that the prohibition is for buses or similar vehicles used for passenger carriage that exceed a dimension or weight or capacity permitted for registration under the *Traffic Act 2010* or the regulations.

Mr Speaker I think that I've talked to the detail stage amendment but this came about by my colleagues in Cabinet, they wanted to have a ceiling for goods imported to be rated at 18% and the figure of \$100,000 was suggested to me and I was more than happy to put that into the Bill to ensure that it doesn't stifle larger investments in the Island. We want to see some investment in the Island and if it was seen that the duty rate of 18% would stifle this then we are more than happy to have a 12% duty rate on goods over the value of \$100,000. As it was alluded to prior, this increase does in actual fact for those people who do shop online for food items, it will mean that they will be able to import a larger amount because the food items under schedule 1 is at 6% and it is how they value or determine the duty payable on goods. If it's currently over or above \$12 then duty is payable so that would then mean now that you would be able to now that it's at 18% you would be able to bring in \$300 worth of food items and still remain under that \$12 threshold. The matter of the buses is as said, it was in two places and we are just trying to remove it from the Customs Act to the Traffic Regulations to manage. I didn't want to get into a discussion about the size of buses or the dimension of buses today because that's not what this is about. That will come up in a future debate, when and if the Traffic Regulations are amended to allow buses of a greater size or weight to be imported into Norfolk Island. This is purely the mechanism to remove it from the Customs Act and to leave it in Traffic Regulations. That is purely the purpose for today. We can have the discussion about the dimension of buses and the community's expectations etc another day but this is just purely tidying up our legislation so that we don't have it in two places, the one gets changed, the other doesn't then we have conflicting legislation so with those few words Mr Speaker, if there's further debate I would like to listen to it and then put forward the motion

MS ADAMS Buses Mr Speaker. I just want to put on the table so that there's absolute clarity in my mind. Mr Nobbs has expressed concerns that Regulations can be made outside of this forum. Mrs Ward spoke about disallowable instruments. All of those things are correct however we also need to add into the mix that this House agreed, that if there are changes in legislation, there is a regulatory impact statement required which is a robust situation. This House itself has agreed to it and so if there's any suggestion that we're going to be looking at the size of buses coming in, let's get on with it. Start the process. Now. Get out there and do it.

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker. Just in reference to the threshold at \$1,000 I think that I have every confidence in certainly the Minister and the majority.....I'm sorry, the \$1000 threshold so items that are valued at less than that will go to 18% and anything of \$100,000 or more will remain at 12% and I've got to be honest, I did raise it as a concern. I did ask for the Minister to address the concept of a sliding scale. He's done that. Because nobody's got a crystal ball and we don't actually know what may or may not come, but there is certainly the will of the Minister and obviously his colleagues and I believe the majority of this House is to remove any barriers that are in place and if anything is seen as a disincentive then we are trying to assist with that process so I'm sure there is room for movement and flexibility there if needed. Just the other point on that one, I know that there are some individuals particularly business owners who are unhappy with the increase because they do some importation themselves, to improve their properties but the point is, that until we have a taxation system with asset improvement incentives, this is what we've got to work with. It's either that or you have a Government that are prepared to start cutting services and expenditures, so in the short term, this is what is available to us and this is what I will support. I have no problem with the inclusion of the changes at schedule 2, which is point (2)(c). Again it's about

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Normal, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 2.86 cm

Formatted: Font: Arial

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: Arial, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black

simplification. It's about less restrictive processes and flexibility in these current times so I do intend to support the Minister at this stage. Thank you Mr Speaker

MR SHERIDAN Thank you Mr Speaker if I could just add one little point and it's one of the main thrusts for the reason for the increase to 18%. I think we concentrated on \$100,000 there just a minute ago, but one of the other reasons for the increase to personal items to 18% is so that the public purse can still attract the same dollar on the same item whether it be imported by a retailer or a private individual and that's based on a 50% mark up. With the advent now of internet shopping etc and it's so much easier now to import goods yourself, of course the public purse was starting to diminish so this is just an avenue, or a way of ensuring that the revenue does remain a little bit stable so that the Government and the Administration can provided the services of which the community expects. If you went one way and said, right, everybody start importing their own goods, our duty would reduce dramatically and unfortunately we can't let that happen, so this puts some fairness into the game you might say where people importing individually, retailers importing, and then the taxman is getting the same dollar for the same item that is being purchased here or being brought into Norfolk Island

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Speaker I intend to support the motion. I agree with the comments made and also to protect the retailers here that this is a necessary action. Those importing their own goods don't have to pay the GST and other retail costs so those that do bring in goods for retail pay the GST and are not subject to the 18% so I'm happy that this has reached a conclusion and I'll support the motion

MR PORTER This is the day for having my thunder stolen. I was going to make a comment similar to what the Minister for Finance made, and although I don't necessarily personally like an increase in duty I am probably in the group that Mrs Ward referred to. I import stuff to improve my property and find it a disincentive because we do not have any input tax credit arrangement or any draw back arrangement so in that regard I felt really negative but I do understand and appreciate that the public purse can't suffer. We have a limited opportunity to raise funds, to run our island and I think that if I want to import something cheaply or at lesser cost it shouldn't impact on other people on the Island's ability to be serviced by the taxes raised for the community. It's a give and take situation in that regard. I'll support it but no-one wants to see a rise in any duty. It's a disincentive for business but it's a fact of life that we have to raise enough funds to run this Island and this is about the equitable raising of those funds so I intend to support the Bill

MR WARD Thank you Mr Speaker, I would just like to acknowledge the efforts the Minister for Finance has put into making these amendments at fairly short notice and for taking on board our concerns about the stifling of capital investment and I thank Tim for that

SPEAKER Further debate? I think we've concluded debate. This is on the amendment and I'm putting this to a vote. The question therefore is whether the amendments be agreed to

QUESTION PUT

AGREED

The ayes have it. The amendments have been agreed to, Honourable Members

That being the case, Honourable Members, we are at the detail stage of this particular piece of legislation, to the question, do we agree that the clauses as amended, just as you have made the amendment now, be agreed to and I put that question to you

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Arial

Formatted

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: Arial

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Formatted

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Formatted

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Formatted

Formatted: Font: Arial

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold

Formatted

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

QUESTION PUT

AGREED

The ayes have it. The amendments have been agreed to Honourable Members

The question now is whether the remainder of the Bill be agreed to and I put that question to you

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Not Bold

QUESTION PUT

AGREED

The ayes have it thank you. I seek a final motion please Mr Sheridan

MR SHERIDAN Thank you Mr Speaker I move that the Bill as amended be agreed to

Formatted: Justified, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

SPEAKER Thank you. Any final debate? I put that question that the Bill as amended be agreed to

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 2.86 cm + 3.81 cm

QUESTION PUT

AGREED

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

The ayes have it. The Bill as amended is agreed to Honourable Members

Honourable Members I note that the hour is 1.20 but I'm going to continue to see if we can't conclude this item and then finish off the business of the day

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Justified, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

The next is Order,

MARINE SAFETY (AMENDMENT NO 2) BILL 2013

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Font color: Black

SPEAKER Honourable Members we resume on the question that the Bill be agreed to in principle and Mr Ward has the call to resume. Mr Ward

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

MR WARD Thank you Mr Speaker

SPEAKER Thank you. Further debate around the table. I will now put the question that the Bill be agreed to in principle

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 6.98 cm

QUESTION PUT

AGREED

The Bill is agreed to in principal. We move to the Detail Stage.

Is it the wish of the House to dispense with the Detail Stage. We so dispense. Minister Ward I seek a final motion

MR WARD Thank you Mr Speaker I move that the Bill be agreed to

SPEAKER Thank you Minister Ward. I put the question

QUESTION PUT

AGREED

The ayes have it. The Bill is agreed.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Resumption of debate from 17 July 2013 on the question that the Report be noted. This is the quarterly Report of the Infrastructure and Business Development Committee Minister Adams you have the call to resume

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Speaker we're resuming from the 17 July 2013. At that time I moved that the Report be noted purely for the purpose of keeping the report alive in the House. It's now back on the table for discussion. I have nothing further to say about it. I would prefer to hand over to the Chairman of the IB&D Committee Mr Nobbs, whom I understand may be moving an alternative motion and with your agreement I'll pass to Mr Nobbs

MR NOBBS Thank you Mr Speaker, I have just prepared a very brief motion here, in relation to this

SPEAKER Is it an amendment Mr Nobbs. We have a motion before us. The question before us is that the Report be noted. If you have any proposals it will need to be an amendment to that motion

MR NOBBS Well I have a motion that I have to put in some form or other to progress the issues in relation to the Report. I was proposing to seek leave to move this motion and that motion would be that the Norfolk Island Government take note of the recommendations of the Infrastructure and Business Development Report dated 17 July 2013 and progress the recommendations as thought appropriate. Now the issues really are that we have a report. The report was done on the 17th July as stated here. The report has not been dealt with and that my understanding is that to get it from the stage of placing it in the Legislative Assembly to the action front, to the Government itself that it needs a motion of the House and so I'm going down that road. Now I just want to say that the Business was established to do a number of things. But it was mainly to look at the business opportunities, to look at the infrastructure problems and the like, because the issue of business development on the island goes back in my time to 2005/2006. at that stage the island had difficulties in balancing its books. We were at that stage about \$1m behind on the requirements for the next financial year. Decisions were taken then to look at how we could raise funding which led to the introduction of the NSL which eventually became the GST. This was to give us certain funding to get us over the hump at the present time but it was recognized at that time that unless we changes the way we did business, expanded the economy and the like and got new business onto the island here we would have extreme difficulties further down the line to maintain the island in a financial position which we were in virtually at that time, but the costs would be ongoing and we needed apart from a vibrant tourist industry of some 40,000 it was recognized that we would need additional business on the island to increase first our economy in general and secondly in case of a downturn in the tourist industry, something else to prop us up. So that was the story. And whilst we've commenced looking at other business opportunities being available to the island and how we could do things and what state the infrastructure and how far behind the eight ball we were and that sort of thing, it was never an outcome so when this Government came along and we were in a fairly difficult situation of being propped up by the Commonwealth it seemed an idea to go full bore into trying to get the economy back on the road again through tourism but also to look at new business enterprises and the like. So this committee was suggested it should be set up, which the Legislative Assembly agreed to, and it was one really of looking at what infrastructure we had, what was needed, how can we attract people to get here. It went for two months in a three month reporting period. The onus was put on the Committee that it had to report every

Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 2.86 cm + 3.81 cm

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0 cm, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 2.86 cm + 3.81 cm

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Normal, Indent: Left: 0 cm, Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 2.22 cm + 2.86 cm

Formatted: Font: Arial

Formatted: Font: Arial, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Arial

Formatted: Font: Arial

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0 cm, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Line spacing: single, No bullets or numbering, Tab stops: 5.71

Formatted: Font: Arial

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold, Superscript

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

three months which was fairly stringent I believe and we would do that. Well it operated for two months and came out with this one report. The situation was that like everything in the Administration, when I started down here, as soon as you asked for something, "you've got no money" so we had to go through the process of setting this committee up with no financial support, support from members and the like, we had a Chief Minister on there who was full bore and other things, we had two guys who were backbenchers who had businesses and what have you to look at, and myself and we were it virtually plus assistance on the side from other people in their own time. So we cut corners. I can tell you we cut corners big time. And the issue was really about how we could get information from people and how we could get them to tell us precisely what was wrong in their particular areas and what was wrong with the infrastructure and how we could fix it. Consequently being an islander, I suggested to the Committee was that everything we did was in secret, virtually, everything was in camera and that we would put a report out at the end of the three months on issues with no names, no pack drill, no nothing. This is it. Which we did. The first issues, we brought out some recommendation, and the first issues was really about infrastructure and other similar type business arrangements, business problems. I understand that there is some difficulty with certain people in relation to how did the Committee actually come to these conclusions. Well I'll just go quickly through the conclusions in a minute but I can tell you that we not only had formal meetings of the Committee, we talked to people, we got ideas from them, we were very fortunate I believe that the election was on and we certainly got some views during that time, which I believe were all true and formed the basis at least of this first Committee report. The recommendations actually are fairly simple. The first one actually states and I'll repeat it roughly for those listening, but it reads that "the future status of the island, particularly in relation to business related taxation, suggests some stability is required into the immediate future." Now if anybody can tell me that they don't realise that if you are going to set up a business, you do need some sort of stability and at that time, and its still around, we're going to have tax, we're not going to have tax. We don't know what we're going to have. When's it going to be. Those sort of issues. That's why we're saying, and the recommendation was that we needed to at least get on the taxation. It was dealt with in one, that they would offer that we would have an opportunity for a significant business opportunity, and I don't mean somebody coming along and doing a small personal type operation but a significant business which would create activities and wealth for the island should be given a tax break. Now there are other places where a tax break is a common encouragement for business development. Its difficult here because of our taxation arrangement but if you're bring in the full raft of Australian taxation regimes well then it would be relatively easy to do and the suggestion was with this was if these sorts of businesses would be offered a tax break until at least 1 July 2021. That was the first recommendation. Now bearing in mind that we're looking at the business development side of things. That was our brief. Not the wider business, it was how you could get business activity going on the island. On the second part, I would just like to say that I think the Minister Adams mentioned that when she was talking about the ebook a while ago. The ebook was another one of those things which we put together very quickly to try and give some information to people who wanted to set up business and it was to be attached to the immigration webpage. The first thing that hit you was that there was nothing there on the webpage about new business and away it would go from there. The original ebook was developed under the assumption that we would have difficulties with people who wanted to set up business not having information available to them about the prime thing that concerns. How much tax are you going to pay. Where are you going on different areas. So the ebook was set up around that. It was more of a general information thing, to be used as an information on the island, a bit on how you could set up businesses but the idea was that anybody who took it up had good contact, a particular side or person, and be walked through the issues involved. So that was the first one. Recommendation 2 is related to health services. Now there are concerns with people coming in here and we've been through it, and it was brought up again this morning, about people with complaints who come in here and the like. There seemed to be a fairly simple solution to be put in place was that a Medicare card holder coming in here should be able to utilise their Medicare card because a Medicate card holder pays tax into the Australian system. It's always been the argument by the

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Commonwealth that you can't use your Medicare card here because you don't pay tax here, but if you've got a Medicare card you've obviously got to pay some sort of taxing arrangement to have that card. It's all stupid. The idea is that we utilise the Medicare here and that's the same as the Gold card for returned servicemen and then the people with the Medicare card should be able to gain access to private health care which we can't do here now. That's the other thing and the third one was to overcome the identified issue of "the lack of incentives related to land and buildings". The thought is that two proposals were put up. The first was that we reserve current vacant crown land on Norfolk Island, that is Crown Land that is actually vacant on the island, not just leasehold land, this is current vacant crown land and such land would be retained and utilised as an incentive in the event of a developer requiring certain land areas. It's the same thing. A major developer, not just a small plan. Also identify Government owned buildings which are readily or potentially available. Now these sort of issues are fairly simple. We went on then for a research centre for the Island. Well there are people who are interested in doing things, we've seen them come through here. We've had groups come through from the Islands and that's a fairly simple exercise in itself. Recommendation five, and I'm trying to get through them quickly, the Norfolk Island Government, as a direct result of the open door immigration regime, should provide more comprehensive controls for the construction and service industries. The argument here is simply that we all know the workers that are on the Island might have been here for years or they might not have been here for years but they've been here for some time. We know their basic requirements and what they are and what they represent. With new people being allowed to come in here the drop of the hat there is need for some sort of basic consumer protection initiatives in place. The subject of Strata Title was another one and it was set out that maybe that scheme should go ahead but it should be done on the basis of a slowly, slowly approach considering that we have got issues on the island here from past subdivision processes that have not turned out as well as they should have done. Recommendation 7, was a more commercial approach be introduced in key areas of Administration infrastructure. I think that's fairly straightforward and that the future of the J & B D Committee, should it be retained in its present form but that's up to the Norfolk Island Government to decide on that. All those issues are things that people have talked about on this Island and have pushed them hard to try and get something done to get the businesses or the economy on the Island going. I don't think there's anything that's wrong with them. If there's something that's wrong with them, go for it, but the Committee has not just said oh we've got problems because we've got these particular issues. Those ones have all got definite procedures that can be implemented to overcome the particular problems. I've seen too many of these reports by the Norfolk Island Legislative Assembly and also the Commonwealth parliaments, just allow to sit. Standing Committee Reports of the Commonwealth are a classic and I don't know how many reports that have been done by the Legislative Assembly that have actually got moving and got some activity. There may be a few but in my time here there haven't been many so I ask that the Legislative Assembly support the proposal put in this motion that the recommendations put in the report from the Committee go to the Norfolk Island Government. I understand that's the way it should be put so I'll put it. Thank you Mr Speaker

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

SPEAKER Mr Nobbs thank you for your participation. Let me note that the question still before the House is that the report be noted

MR NOBBS Thank you Mr Speaker I thought I had asked for leave. Sorry.

SPEAKER If you wish to alter that motion you're at liberty to make a proposal about that, but you will need to propose an amendment to that motion. The original motion that is before us is that the Report be noted

MR NOBBS Thank you Mr Speaker I seek leave if I may to move an amendment which includes the following, that the Norfolk Island Government take note of the recommendations of the Infrastructure and Business

Development Report dated 17 July 2013 and progress the recommendations as thought appropriate.

SPEAKER I'm interpreting that the motion therefore as proposed by you, is to retain the original motion that the Report be noted and that the Norfolk Island Government take note of the recommendations of the Infrastructure and Business Development Report dated 17 July 2013 and progress the recommendations as thought appropriate. Is that your proposal? Yes. Leave is granted for that purpose. Thank you. We now have an amendment in front of us Honourable Members, Debate

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Speaker. I support the amendment to the motion

MR SNELL Thank you Mr Speaker I support the amendment to the motion. I support the recommendations in principle with some reservations about the implementation details, particularly around consequential legislation but that would of course come at a later time. In the meantime I'll reserve my comments

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Speaker I don't intend to support the amendment to this motion. Particularly because it gives this to the Government to make the ultimate decisions without debate in this House on each item and they could equally dump it and ignore the whole lot, or they could start to progress all of or some of them and I will come back to that when appropriate in the debate, but at this stage I would not support the amendment

MR PORTER Thank you Mr Speaker briefly, I echo the sentiments of the Chief Minister in that I can support the amendment to the point that I would assume that any action taken by the Government would be fully debated within this House and bear in mind that a number of those issues have a fairly heavy Commonwealth involvement and they may well be decisions that are not in our sphere of influence in any regard, but I would be confident that we would have the opportunity to have some robust debate around the matters in due course, so in that regard I would support the motion

MR EVANS Thank you Mr Speaker I would just say that I would support the motion but I do say that we should take into consideration some of the concerns that some members have given us in the past as to how we came about these recommendations and certainly have it within the mind of the Infrastructure and Business Development Committee to make sure that we try and adhere to some of the wishes of our fellow colleagues and make sure that they are made available to them in the future

SPEAKER Thank you Mr Evans. I just want to make a contribution. Mr Porter could you take the Chair.

MR BUFFETT Thank you Mr Acting Deputy Speaker. I just want to take into account the various factors that have been made around the table. Some are quite happy to proceed as proposed but there are some reservations and I'm wondering whether an adjustment to the words there might alleviate some of that. We've got a proposal that the Government progress as thought appropriate. Would it improve if we thought the Government in consultation with the Legislative Assembly progress the recommendations as thought appropriate. And I would be comfortable to make an adjustment. Just give me a moment to tidy the words but it would read something like this, *that the Report be noted and that the Norfolk Island Government in consultation with the Legislative Assembly take note of the recommendations of the Infrastructure and Business Development Report dated 17 July 2013 and progress the recommendations as thought appropriate*, I could not make those recommendations from the chair, you would understand that

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial

Formatted: Font: Arial, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Arial

Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Adjust space between Asian text and numbers, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm

Formatted: English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font: Italic

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Italic

Formatted: Font: Italic

Formatted: Font: Italic, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Italic

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, Italic

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER Mr Nobbs you are happy with the amended amendment

MR NOBBS I'm happy to get it through anyway we can Mr Acting Deputy Speaker. That's the facts of life and we need to keep it moving

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER So if you're happy with the amendments proposed by Mr Buffett we would now be voting on an amended amendment. So if you will read that again Mr Buffett

MR BUFFETT Thank you Mr Acting Deputy Speaker, *that the Report be noted and that the Norfolk Island Government in consultation with the Legislative Assembly take note of the recommendations of the Infrastructure and Business Development Report dated 17 July 2013 and progress the recommendations as thought appropriate.* That doesn't necessarily endorse every one of them at this stage. It says to give further consideration and with that consultative process would determine how its managed on the way forward

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER So if Members are comfortable with that, are there further speakers now

MS ADAMS Thank you Mr Acting Deputy Speaker I would just like to take this opportunity whilst it is not quite specific to what we are discussing here, it equally is relevant to what we are discussing here and it was raised earlier in the debate, the difficulties being experienced by this Committee in having itself serviced appropriately. It's a Parliamentary Committee and I would ask as part of this debate that this Committee going forward as a Parliamentary Committee be appropriate serviced and support staffing be provided to it and I would ask that the Speaker on our behalf take this on board. Thank you Mr Speaker

MR SHERIDAN Thank you Mr Acting Deputy Speaker. I'll support the amended motion purely because it stipulates that the Government in consultation with the Legislative Assembly consider these matters further. I have no difficulty with that because the recommendations from this working group it's only the Government that can move most of these forward. We're talking about tax breaks. The Government is the only one who could accommodate that in consultation with the Commonwealth. If our tax status at the moment is stifling investment and no doubt it could to a degree because we don't know how the Australian taxation system if introduced will look like, but at this point in time we can offer everybody tax breaks they want because we ain't got any bloody taxation here on Norfolk Island. The issues related to Medicare cards etc. that is another issue that the Government can only take in conjunction with the Commonwealth but my concern with recommendation two is that it only satisfies the visitors concerns, or the people with Medicare cards which would mainly be visitors. What we're after here is a better health system for Norfolk Island. That's what we should be discussing with the Commonwealth. The entry into the Medicare system as a whole. Just not, that if you happen to have a Medicare card that you could use it on Norfolk Island like a DVA Gold card. That won't satisfy the majority of islanders who live here. There's a couple of others here that are purely again, the issue of reserves and crown land. Again it's an issue for the Government in consultation with the Commonwealth. We're the only ones who can take that forward. There's a couple there that the Government can work through in their own right, strata title, research centre, controls on construction service industries, we would have to be careful there that we don't knock our own workers out of the trade, because a lot of workers over here would not be Australian ticketed. Now if we bring in too many regulations along the Australian lines, all of a sudden the only ones who would be able to do work here would be new immigrants to Norfolk Island who have tickets or forcing our people to go off shore and get their tickets, even though they may be qualified, they may not have the necessary tickets that Australia demands so we have to be careful there. The key areas of the Administration infrastructure, and we're talking about the GBE's here, that's been assessed by the Government under the

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, English

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: 11 pt

Formatted: Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 5.08 cm

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font color: Black

divestment process and if the IBDC Committee wants to retain its present form, I have no problem with that. The only thing that I do make a comment on is that the Chair of the Committee made mention that they cut corners in their deliberations and that everything was secret. Well I have a real problem with that because we've got a report here which is some four/five pages long. The first page is about their terms of reference etc. We've got three quarters of a page of issues of concern, with no data to back it up. No data of which they gleaned from their interviews to back it up and then we have two pages of recommendations. This report seems to be lacking in substance and if we're to progress these matters on behalf of the Committee, now it's one of our own Committee's, they need to be more up front and provide more information. The Chair keeps saying oh yes, but people won't talk to us unless it's secret. That's fine but if you can't part with that information to the Minister who has responsibility for economic development, I don't see the recommendations going too far at all, except where the recommendations are in areas that we are already working on. So I would just like to make that point that these reports come to the House and there's one supposed to be every three months, and Mr Nobbs seems to make an inference there that it was forced upon him, they're the ones who put the motion up, to have three monthly reports. If you don't like it, change it to six months but don't complain about it.

Formatted: Font: Arial, Not Bold

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

MR NOBBS I wasn't complaining about it. It's a fact of life

Formatted: Font color: Black

MR SHERIDAN It sounded like it before. So whilst I'll support the amended motion, because I see it as a way of getting this off the books, and I don't have a problem with the Government pursuing these items, because we're pursuing them already, but in the future for future reports from the IBDC I would like to see some more supporting information backing their recommendations. Thank you Mr Speaker

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

MR BUFFETT Thank you Mr Acting Deputy Speaker. I think around the table that we'll probably find some usefulness in reasonably coming together with the amended arrangement but I want to say this and it's following that, that has been mentioned by Minister Sheridan, if we think that these things that are b being discussed and may well be pursued will provide the long term arrangements for Norfolk Island then we're kidding ourselves. We're kidding ourselves. The only thing that will provide long term arrangements for Norfolk Island is that that we've already set out in the Roadmap. We do need to enter into the Australian taxation regime. We need to move from our smaller unsurvivable small pool to the larger pool. That remains, notwithstanding what is in this report here. We need to enter the welfare scheme in an overall sense, not just plucking out the Gold Card or this or that. We need to look at it in a holistic arrangement but we also need to enter into a new governance arrangement which enters into the GST arrangement because that brings significant more funds into the Norfolk Island public pool. Unless and until we have achieved those range of things and there are other things as well, I've just plucked out some of the more important ones, until we have progressed through those range of things, that's why I asked the Chief Minister earlier in questions without notice, what plans does he have to get to the new Government in Australia to advance our cause because those things must be advanced. They are the answer to our long term situation in Norfolk Island. These things will not provide that long term relief and until and unless that is done then we are going to face the same difficulties that we face today and it is not sustainable. We have people going out of business, we have people leaving the island, we have family people not being able to survive in this place at this moment and the remedy for that in the longer term, is that which is set out in the Roadmap. It's a long road for some but nevertheless it needs to be got and we can't be sitting around just writing letters. We've got to be there hammering on doors, pursuing our cause and it needs to be done properly. So I don't have any difficulty with what's in front of us. I don't think all of it's that tidy but nevertheless that's not the main point. But we need to not lose sight of this bigger picture about which we must be going strongly

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11 pt, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font: Not Italic

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER Notwithstanding those comments we need to advance on every front and that is the reason that I would support this. Is there any further debate

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

MR NOBBS Thank you Mr Acting Deputy Speaker I think that without the economy we're going to have real problems on the island here and a viable economy and that's it otherwise we certainly will have a safety net but it won't be a place that you'd want to be. I can tell you. And that's the only reason that I'm driving hard to try and get some economic development on the island here because that is our future

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER Thank you Mr Nobbs. I think we all agree with your sentiments there. If there is no further debate we have the motion that the Report be noted and that the Norfolk Island Government in consultation with the Legislative Assembly take note of the recommendations of the Infrastructure and Business Development Report dated 17 July 2013 and progress the recommendations as thought appropriate

Formatted: Font: 11 pt, English

CUSTOMS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2013

Formatted: Font color: Black, English (U.S.)

Formatted: Font color: Black

SPEAKER Honourable Members we resume on the question that the Bill be agreed to in principle and Mr Sheridan has the call to resume. Minister

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

MR SHERIDAN Thank you Mr Speaker

SPEAKER Thank you. Further debate around the table. I will now put the question that debate be adjourned and resumption of debate be made an Order of the Day for a subsequent day of Sitting. I put that question

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 6.98 cm

QUESTION PUT

AGREED

~~That matter is so adjourned. Honourable Members we have concluded Orders of the Day.~~

MRS WARD Thank you Mr Acting Deputy Speaker and I'm not trying to confuse things, I thought this was an amendment to the motion which ultimately I'm happy to go with. I see that there's all good intent around this table but I think its actually quite dangerous for me not to put my concerns on the table right now, whichever way this motion goes and I can see that it would get up and be the extended version. I would like to make a couple of overarching comments which I think really do need to go on the record as concerns and we've already discussed them privately and that is the resourcing for the Committee. This is a Standing Committee of the House. Working Committees of Parliament should have limited need for confidentiality. It's coming back to the appropriateness of the use of the term confidentiality. They should and normally do act in an open and transparent manner with publish hearings and open evidence because the public is entitled to know, let along Ministers what the Committee draws it conclusions on. What they are based on. The second point which is just an overarching comment is that I would like to see grater balance in the reporting and I think that the inclusion of supporting documentation and the list of persons received and references and footnotes, it's just your normal standard procedures that are followed by a Standing Committee of this parliament. I could not, not note, unfortunately the phrases used by the Chair of the Committee, and that is that they went "full bore" "we cut corners" and basically it was under the cloak of secrecy. That in my opinion cannot be allowed to continue and I'm sure would be clarified as the procedures for the Standing Committee is revisited. May I say that the comments that I'm going to make do not detract in any way from the time that has been put in to the creation of this report by Members. But what is glaring to me about this document and I think it's dangerous not to make these points because if somebody in a new federal department picks up on our Hansard and sees this, they'll think oh my goodness, what have they done. That may be a first impression if they were not aware of the Roadmap, the Funding Agreement, the ACIL Report, the ASIC, the update of the Commonwealth Grants Commission report etc.

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0 cm, First line: 0 cm, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: English (Australia)

Formatted: English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black

to support that sweeping statement. It talks about, so this technologies and practices easily utilized on other islands, throughout the South Pacific to improve their lifestyle and wellbeing. This proposal is supported and should be progressed. I've got a big exclamation mark. What proposal? I don't know anything about what's being suggested. Unless of course it means Redemtech but I think we've already had that debate in this House or maybe it will all come back again with similar ideas but they will go through stock, standard process which is the CEO who is responsible for assets in Norfolk Island. No 5. Reference to open immigration. The Committee is saying that the Norfolk Island Government, as a direct result of the open immigration regime should provide more comprehensive controls for construction and service industries. That's right, we're picking up on the tradies and some of the service personnel, and I would probably just second the words of Minister Sheridan on the record for that, but also he would be aware that this has already been identified in the Roadmap. The whole occupational health and safety issue has been acknowledged, workplace standards, licensing, trades to certify Australian standards. This is all something that obviously is going to take time to transition in any industry but if you look in the Roadmap you will see reference to that and we've also talked about IPAT the consumer protection and that's going to be.... we have been informed by the Minister for Finance, that, that will be part of the divestment process as we move through there. What this House has done is also committed to the use of the competition principles agreement so its all about standards for workers and protection for consumers. It's already on the table. No 6 is the introduction of strata title, has been considered by the Committee but I feel that, with respect, the Committee has ignored the previous Legislative Assembly's considerations on this subject and the public debate that has already taken place and that flowed from a white paper on the issue. The Minister for Finance, was very proactive and actually had some results when he had that portfolio so again, it's been addressed and it progresses. I understand it was on the legislative...it's in the Funding Agreement. It's there. Number 7. Committee's Statement. More commercial approach to be introduced in key areas of Administration infrastructure as certain areas are falling behind in the provision of services, due primarily to current governance arrangements and it goes on, but I think to be fair to the Public Service I found the committee's comments obscure in relation to poor commercial skills and no sections are identified in the report unlike the ACIL report, so the ACIL Tasman report. If they go back to that, that actually gives detail relating to Public Service skills so for me it's a bit of a cheap shot being aimed at Administration without any evidence but at the same time, it would be foolish for any of us to deny the challenges we face, but again, they are being addressed and the sooner the divestment assessment consultants arrive and start work, the better. The last point at this stage I'm afraid I just could not give any support to, I'm not being told any thing about it at this stage. I think it's a whole other debate for another day and it would be, it would be surely, it would have to be created through proper process in this House but I think as a voting member I've certainly been very generous to date supporting my colleague Mr Nobbs in his desire and want and I feel his frustration but I think he's starting to push the friendship a little bit too far at this stage. I would like to see him come back from full bore, to shift back a gear or two and stop cutting corners, throw off the cloak of secrecy and by all means move on the current role and function that he and his committee members have under what we have already created of a Standing Committee so I hope that my comments are taken in the way that they are intended. Thank you Mr Speaker

MR NOBBS

Thank you Mr Speaker, as far as I am concerned every committee that I've seen operate around here has areas of confidentiality and nothing's been worse than the much lauded Territory Standing Committee. At times there's written reports where there's been virtually no open sessions involved with it and I think it was probably a mistake in the last group that came over here which weren't going to have a report anyhow, but they had an open session but the Commonwealth themselves insisted on a in camera session. The other thing is that what we are looking at there is not dreaming about what will be if the road map comes into force. What we're doing, what these recommendations are is what's going on at the present time. That's where the problem is. If we want businesses to start now, this is what they are faced with and these are the suggestions. Sure everybody might want a Medicare card. Some of them

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

don't actually . Some people do want it. But what we're talking about is a business development arrangement and that's where the Roadmap today has let us down and that's what we are saying here. To come in with some ideas that would assist in providing a better place for people to actually operate new businesses. That's it. I'll move that...

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

SPEAKER No, you don't need to do that. Honourable Members I'm going to put the matters to you in two parts . Firstly I'm going to ask if you want to agree to the amendment and then I'm going to put the motion as amended be agreed if that's the way the flow is. So the first part is, the question is that the amendment be agreed to

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

QUESTION PUT

AGREED

MRS WARD NO

Do you want the House called?

MRS WARD No thank you Mr Speaker

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

SPEAKER We will record Mrs Ward's no, thank you

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

The amendment is agreed. Therefore the next question Honourable Members is that the motion as amended be agreed

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

QUESTION PUT

AGREED

The motion as amended is agreed Honourable Members

Formatted: Font: Not Bold, Font color: Black, English (Australia)

Formatted: Font: Arial

FIXING OF THE NEXT SITTING DAY

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font color: Black

MRS WARD SHERIDAN Thank you Mr Speaker. I move that the House at its rising adjourn until Wednesday the 16th ~~September~~ ~~October~~ 2013 at 10.00 am.

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0 cm, First line: 0 cm, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 1.27 cm

MR SPEAKER Thank you Mr Sheridan. Any debate on that Honourable Members:

Formatted: Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font color: Black

QUESTION PUT

AGREED

ADJOURNMENT

MR EVANSWARD I move that the House do now adjourn,

MR SPEAKER Thank you. Any adjournment debate Honourable Members. No adjournment debate. Thank you, Honourable Members I put the question to you that the House do now adjourn.

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font color: Black

QUESTION PUT

AGREED

MR SPEAKER Honourable Members this House stands adjourned until Wednesday the 16th ~~October~~ ~~September~~ 2013 at 10.00 am.

18 September

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Centered, Space Before: 1 pt, After: 1 pt, Tab stops: 5.71 cm, Left + Not at 6.98 cm

Formatted: Font color: Black

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 11