

**3.2. Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill 2019 –
Third Reading approved**

Mr Thomas to move:

That the Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill 2019 be read a third time.

The Speaker: Item 3.2, Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill 2019 and I call on the Hon. Member for Douglas Central, Mr Thomas, to move.

Mr Thomas: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker.

5 I thank Hon. Members in this House for careful consideration of the principles and also the detail of this important legislation that will be helpful for a very important topic – a sustainable development in the Isle of Man.

10 In so doing, I would also like to pay particular thanks to my seconder and colleagues in the Cabinet Office and DEFA who worked very closely. I think we all appreciate the careful attention given to the clauses from Mr Baker and Mr Shimmins, and we had a very important and helpful debate at that stage. I would also like to thank the officers, and I think everybody involved in the Bill would like me to mention Helen Helfrich's particular attention to all of our concerns, and I would like to put that on the record.

15 So with that, Hon. Members, I commend this Bill to this House and I beg to move.

The Speaker: I call on the Hon. Member for Garff, Mr Perkins.

Mr Perkins: Thank you, Mr Speaker; and I thank the Minister for his introduction.

20 I am not a conspiracy theorist, but I am concerned that this Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill is making its way through the legislative process exactly at the same time as the public inquiry has been delayed until September.

The Speaker: Sorry, Mr Perkins, are you seconding the motion?

25 **Mr Perkins:** No, sir.

The Speaker: No, I am sorry I took the indication from you as seconding the motion.

30 **Mr Perkins:** Oh, I beg your pardon.

The Speaker: I will call on you once we have a seconder and the motion is available for debate. Mr Boot.

35 **Mr Boot:** I beg to second and reserve my remarks.

The Speaker: Now, Mr Perkins, please, if you care to resume your comments.

Mr Perkins: Thank you, Mr Speaker. I shall just reiterate what I said first of all.

40 I am not a conspiracy theorist but I am concerned that the Bill is going through at exactly the same time as the public inquiry has been delayed until September. I wonder if this combination of events is because the Minister realises that there may be many objections to proposed designations of sites and the plan for the East.

45 Is he delaying the public inquiry until the Bill is passed into law to allow the Council of Ministers to pass national policy directive before the public inquiry is held, consequently overriding some of the objections?

Please could the Minister categorically confirm that this is not the case?
Thank you, Mr Speaker.

The Speaker: Mover to reply.

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Mr Thomas: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker.
I categorically confirm that this is not the case. *(Laughter)*

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The Speaker: I put the question that the Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill 2019 be read for a third time. Those in favour, please say aye; against, no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.

Hon. Members, that concludes the business before the House today. We will now stand adjourned until next Tuesday at 10.30 a.m. in Tynwald Court.

The House adjourned at 11.02 a.m.