

**3. Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill 2019 –
Third Reading approved; Bill passed**

Mr Cretney to move:

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

The President: The Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill for Third Reading.
Mr Cretney.

Mr Cretney: Thank you, Mr President.

The Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill 2019 makes amendments to the Town and Country Planning Act 1999. This Bill came to us for consideration in Council after significant amendments from the House of Keys, and I think that these amendments made great improvement to the function and form of the Bill overall.

In order to remind Hon. Members here assembled, the Bill makes provision for, or amends, existing provisions for the following matters: national policy directives; development procedure orders, for the minor amendment to existing planning approvals; a mechanism for the referral of applications for planning approval to the Council of Ministers, which includes a definition of the term 'general importance'; power for a community infrastructure levy; bringing the basis for the Planning Committee into the Town and Country Planning Act 1999; the involvement of outside organisations – section 40 of the Act.

I would like to again state that I strongly encourage the Council of Ministers to move ahead and establish an advisory body under section 40 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1999. Valuable experience and skills are present in our community, and these need to be input into the strategic planning of our common future.

Once again I thank the Hon. Members of the House of Keys who provided amendments and constructively improved the Bill, and I thank the Hon. Members here in this Legislative Council who provided valuable contributions at the First Reading and clauses stages.

Mr President, I move that the Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill 2019 be read for a third time.

The President: Mr Crookall.

Mr Crookall: Happy to second, Mr President.

Mrs Lord-Brennan: I was going to second!

Mr Crookall: Oh, sorry.

The President: Thank you. Does any Member wish to contribute to the debate?
Mrs Maska.

Mrs Maska: Thank you, Mr President.

I think this is a valuable opportunity in this legislation. Following on from the Chief Minister's statement on Friday where this Government has acknowledged that there is a climate change emergency, I think this Bill, when we look at it, offers a facility, especially under national policy directives, to address the issues of climate change; and built into that enablement in this Bill is the possibility or a mandatory capability of consulting with those that seem appropriate at the time.

In his statement, the Chief Minister referred to the carbon emissions being highly identified with residential development and I think again we have a capability of changing emphasis, and I think emphasis has to shift from building just new properties on greenfield sites with the initiatives that

the Chief Minister has in mind. There is a strong capability now of looking at retrofitting existing buildings reminding ourselves of the carbon emissions that are already built into the fabric of our built environment. I see this rather as we should not be opposed to this legislation, this is a greater capability of enabling us to be more nimble and addressing the climate change issues that face us.

So I welcome this even more in this sitting and I thank the Hon. Member for bringing this forward.

Thank you.

The President: Thank you.

Mr Cretney.

Mr Cretney: Just to thank the Hon. Member for her contribution throughout. Her interest is well-known in the subject matter, which is of great importance to the Island in the future and perhaps even more so given comments that are currently being made by various politicians. Let's hope that those comments turn into reality (**Miss August-Hanson:** Hear, hear.) and I thank the Hon. Member for her contribution today and beg to move that the Third Reading of the Bill be passed.

The President: Thank you, Mr Cretney.

The motion is the Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill be read for the third time. Those in favour say aye; against, no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.

Hon. Members, that concludes the business this morning. Council will now stand adjourned until the next sitting which will take place on Tuesday, 21st May at 10.30 a.m. in Tynwald Court.

The Council adjourned at 10.50 a.m.