

## 5.2. Marine Infrastructure Management Bill 2015 – Third Reading approved

Mr Gawne to move:

*That the Marine Infrastructure Management Bill 2015 be read for a third time.*

**The Speaker:** We turn now to the Marine Infrastructure Management Bill for Third Reading. I call on the mover, the Hon. Member, Mr Gawne.

**Mr Gawne:** Gura mie eu, Loayreyder.

In moving the Third Reading of this Bill, I will be brief in light of the fact that the Bill passed smoothly through its clauses stage last week.

The purpose of this Bill is to provide a streamlined decision-making process for consent to development proposal within the territorial sea to ensure a sustainable approach to marine development within the territorial sea; to provide a decision-making process that is clear for applicants and decision-makers; and to provide power to adapt the law to reflect emerging technologies in developing approaches to marine activities.

The Bill provides for a single consenting regime, a compliance regime and the creation of marine plans and marine policy statements as and when required. It should be noted that the proposed consenting regime is similar to the UK's consenting regime; however, it is simpler than the UK process. This, it is hoped, will appeal to those wishing to develop in our waters as it will not be a totally unknown process but it will be quicker.

All in all, I am sure the Bill will make a material contribution to controlling emerging technologies in developing approaches to our marine environment. It will also reduce bureaucracy and hopefully provide a robust and streamlined consenting process.

I beg to move that the Marine Infrastructure Management Bill 2015 be read for the third time.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Member, Mr Harmer.

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

**The Speaker:** Hon. Member, Mr Karran.

**Mr Karran:** Vainstyr Loayreyder, I have got no problem with the Bill. It does address certain issues, but my concern with the Bill is that I think we should address a broader base. I understand the pressures that are on the Minister as far as marine infrastructure is concerned and its management, but we are where we are about the issues as far as policing is concerned.

I do feel that whilst I will not be opposing the Bill, I am disappointed that the Government of the Isle of Man needs to address the issue of the EEZ. It upsets me that once again we do not have the resilience or the backbone within this House to address that issue with the UK. The UK has taken it for the Faroe Islands' government. The UK has an international obligation as far as the EEZ is concerned, by not allowing an administrated territory to be put at a disadvantage in the interests of the UK. The EEZ's interests are being put in the advantage of the imperial government. I am sorry that this Bill will not be covering the territorial sea of the EEZ.

I am not criticising the Minister; he is where he is. We made mistakes in 1991 when it came to fisheries' protection and a number of other issues in the past, but the fact is that this Bill should have had a medium line as far as the Island is concerned.

**The Speaker:** The mover to reply, Mr Gawne.

**Mr Gawne:** Gura mie eu, Loayreyder.

I feel as though I am being criticised for coming forward with a planning Bill by someone who wants me to come forward with a housing Bill. It is not my responsibility to do the things that the Hon. Member requests. It may be that it is something that Government should look at, but as I said very clearly in clauses my responsibility in this regard is about development in the territorial sea.

The Bill is something that we should all be applauding. It makes easier the work of Government in terms of administration. It provides a simple process and a process that all UK developers or indeed any international developers who have worked with the UK system ... It is a system that they will be able to understand, but it is a simpler system. It is a good news story. It is us working out where the pitfalls are from an adjacent island's piece of legislation and hopefully doing better.

I beg to move.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Members, I put the question that the Marine Infrastructure Management Bill be read for the third time. Those in favour, please say aye; against, no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.