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SENTINEL

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Connect Calls for "Immediate Water Conservation"



Harpers 1 Reservoir pictured in 2019

"Every drop counts" says Connect as below-average seasonal rainfall threaten island water reserves ahead of summer months

International Workers for the Private Sector?



SHG launch feasibility study to explore overseas labour recruitment for the island's private sector

"Definitely going up"

says Financial Secretary amid rising global fuel costs and the effect on St Helena



OPINION

SENTINEL COMMENT

Anita Robbertse, SAMS

I know on St Helena we jokingly refer to gossiping as "yarning". I have been giving this some thought recently after having been on the receiving end of the kind of gossip I want to talk about today on several occasions.

In my opinion, gossip mostly stems from human interest and curiosity, especially prevalent in a small and close-knit community like ours. There are times though that an underlying maliciousness and mean-spirited gossip rears its ugly head fuelled (again in my opinion) by jealously, envy and spitefulness. It is as if the individual spreading the rumours (whether truth or half-truths), specifically wants to harm the person or group they are targeting. There is a word that captures this attitude perfectly - 'Schadenfreude'- to take personal pleasure specifically from another's failure, trouble or pain.

Where there has been an increased focus on mental health on the Island, isn't it time we acknowledge that rumours of this kind destroy happiness, reputations and even lives. Admittedly, some people seem to deal better with being the target of these kind of rumours, but it remains hurtful and unnecessary.

I have quoted Deon (my husband) in the past, but it is again befitting to remind ourselves that "if we do not have anything good to say, rather say nothing at all." Now, I do fully include myself in the sermon I am preaching today, as I think all of us have at some point in life been guilty of at least a little bit of malicious gossip.

Let us re-examine our motives when we talk about someone else. If it is truly in sympathy or to gain support for that person, I see no harm. But, if our intention is to harm, let us reconsider and rather be kind and caring in our remarks. No-one can truly know what another person is dealing with. The old proverb still holds true 'Think before you speak!' Let's make that our motto from now on.

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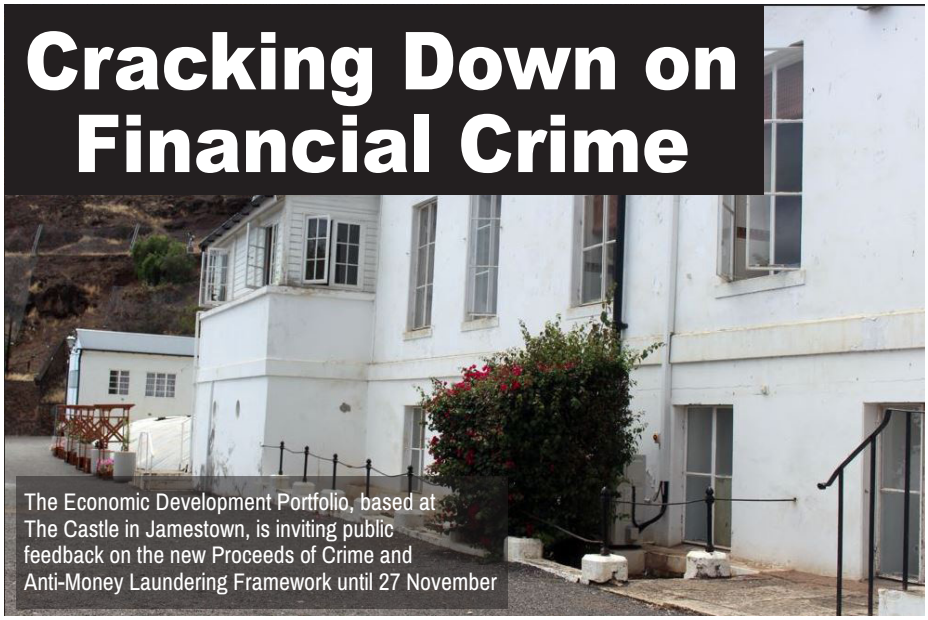
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Cracking Down on Financial Crime



The Economic Development Portfolio, based at The Castle in Jamestown, is inviting public feedback on the new Proceeds of Crime and Anti-Money Laundering Framework until 27 November

Public Consultation launched on new Anti-Money Laundering Framework, as new laws set to pave way for International Company Registry

Liam Yon, SAMS

The St Helena Government (SHG) has officially launched a public consultation on a comprehensive new legislative framework designed to overhaul and strengthen the island's arrangements for tackling money laundering, terrorist financing, and the proceeds of crime.

According to a press release issued by SHG on 2 October 2026, the proposed reform package comprises four draft legal instruments; the Proceeds of Crime Bill, 2026; the Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Regulations; the Non-Profit Organisation Regulations; and the Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Directive.

Together, SHG stated that these measures will replace and "substantially modernise" the current regulatory framework established under the Money Laundering Ordinance, 2008.

SHG highlighted that these reforms make up an "important part" of delivering St Helena's Sustainable Economic Development Strategy 2023–2033 (SEDS). According to government details, the SEDS identifies the reform and modernisation of St Helena's financial services laws as necessary to "encourage competition within the sector, support economic growth and improve compliance with international standards."

Furthermore, the work forms part of the government's broader Financial Services and Company Registry Development Programme. SHG noted that this program aims to establish foundations for a "credible international company registry", increase locally generated government revenue, create new employment and skills opportunities, and support greater diversification of St Helena's economy.

To achieve these long-term objectives, SHG stated that St Helena must demonstrate that the development of new financial services and internationally focused business is supported by "effective safeguards against financial crime" that meet global expectations.

Specifically, the draft legislation is designed to bring St Helena into "closer alignment" with the standards set by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), described as the global standard-setting body for combating money laundering, terrorist financing, and proliferation financing.

The proposed laws will strengthen arrangements for preventing and detecting financial crime, recovering crime proceeds, and supervising regulated businesses. Crucially, SHG confirmed that the framework will also introduce formal requirements for several businesses and professions not currently subject to the full regulatory regime, including real estate agents, lawyers and legal professionals, accountants, trust and company service providers, and high-value dealers. A separate, "risk-based regime" is also proposed specifically for non-profit organisations across the island.

Commenting on the launch of the public consultation, Minister for Economic Development, Karl Thrower, emphasised the necessity of updating local financial regulations to match international expectations. "These reforms are an important part of delivering our Sustainable Economic Development Strategy," he noted. "If St Helena is to develop its financial services sector and a credible international company registry, we also need a modern regulatory framework that meets international standards."

Minister Thrower added that taking a rigorous approach to regulation is essential for long-term economic stability. "Doing this properly will help protect St Helena's reputation, support confidence in the jurisdiction and create the conditions for new business, jobs and locally generated revenue as we diversify our economy," he said.

SHG noted that the consultation offers local businesses, professionals, non-profit groups, and the general public an opportunity to review and comment on the draft legislation before it is finalised.

Alongside the four draft legal instruments, SHG has published an Explanatory Note detailing the background to the reforms, outlining principal provisions, and describing how the framework will operate in practice. These documents are accessible on the public consultation section of the SHG website.

Public information sessions detailing the framework will also be announced shortly.

The public consultation period will conclude on Friday, 27 November, at 4pm, with submissions invited before this date via email to damian.burns@sainthelena.gov.sh or via posting to the Economic Development Portfolio, The Castle, Jamestown. Respondents are asked to include their name, contact details, and specify the capacity in which they are responding (e.g. individual, business, professional, or non-profit entity).

Following the close of the consultation period, SHG confirmed that all feedback will be formally reviewed by the government, the Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA), and the Attorney General's Chambers before the final legislative package and the Proceeds of Crime Bill proceed to the Legislative Council for formal debate.

Connect Calls for "Immediate Water Conservation"



Severely depleted levels recorded at Harpers 1 Reservoir on 13 August 2019 during St Helena's driest year on record. Connect has urged early conservation to prevent a return to similar low storage levels.

"Every drop counts" says Connect as below-average seasonal rainfall and potential El Niño conditions threaten island water reserves ahead of summer months

Liam Yon, SAMS

Connect Saint Helena Ltd has issued an urgent public notice advising residents and businesses across the Island that winter rainfall received this year has been "significantly below seasonal averages".

The utilities provider warns that current resource assessments indicate dam, reservoir, and groundwater levels "may not be sufficient" should summer rainfall also fall below normal patterns.

While there are currently "no restriction on water use," Connect stresses that early conservation measures are vital to "safeguard supplies should dry conditions persist during the summer months".

Adding to the precarious outlook, global weather forecasts indicate the potential development of El Niño conditions. For those unfamiliar with the phenomenon, El Niño is a natural climate cycle driven by the warming of ocean surface temperatures in the central and eastern Pacific, which significantly disrupts global atmospheric circulation and alters rainfall patterns worldwide.

Connect notes that while the "specific impact on St Helena remains uncertain," it is nonetheless "prudent to take early steps to conserve water and safeguard supplies for essential domestic, commercial, environmental and emergency use".

Water scarcity is far from a new challenge on St Helena; an island that relies heavily on rainfall and mist capture from its cloud forest to replenish raw water reserves. Historical archives indicate a recurring drought cycle roughly every 15 years, interspersed with longer dry-free spans. Early accounts document severe water shortages as far back as 1699, followed by the catastrophic 1714 to 1716 drought that reportedly wiped out most of the Island's livestock and forced inhabitants to live heavily on salt provisions and fish. Subsequent centuries brought further hardship, including the gruelling 1932 to 1933 dry period and the severe livestock-decimating droughts of 1943, 1964, 1970, and 1973.

In more recent times, shifting weather patterns have triggered increasingly acute water crisis on St Helena. Many will remember how a serious drought struck in 2013, enforcing strict management protocols across the island. This was then followed by the severe 2016 to 2017 Stage 3 drought crisis, which saw stored water levels plummet to 35%, notably completely drying up 'The Run' and forcing heavy reliance on boreholes for water provision. The most recent drought-period came seven



Exposed lining at an island reservoir during the 2019 drought crisis.

years ago after 2019 was recorded as the island's driest year since meteorological station records began in 1977, keeping consumption restrictions active for nearly a full year until surface flows recovered.

Now, to prevent history from repeating itself, Connect is asking the community to pull together and make water conservation part of their "daily routine".

Rather than waiting for a crisis to strike, residents and businesses are being urged to take proactive responsibility now by avoiding unnecessary outdoor water use and washing down vehicles, driveways, and hard surfaces. Additional practical steps include repairing leaking taps, pipes, and fittings promptly, limiting garden watering to essential needs only, and utilising water-efficient appliances.

Reminding the public that "every drop counts" Connect states that working together will help secure a sustainable water supply for the community ahead of the warmer months. Anyone seeking further information, updates, or water-saving advice can visit their official website at www.connect.co.sh, or can contact their enquiry line directly on 22255.



St Helena relies heavily on rainfall and natural cloud forest mist capture for water supply

Christmas at The Saints Club anyone?

Ascension announce festive flight discounts, with up to 50% off return fares between the islands

Donna Crowie, SAMS

The Ascension Island Government has once again announced discounted flight fares between St Helena and Ascension to help families and friends connect over the festive season.

Usually costing around £900 return, fares on the monthly inter-island air service have been slashed by up to 50 percent following a returning initiative backed by Employing Organisations on Ascension.

Passengers departing St Helena on either 5 December or 12 December and returning on 10 January or 17 January can access a 50 percent discount, bringing the return fare down to £445.

For travellers planning a longer stay, returning on 14 February, a 25 percent discount applies, with return tickets priced at £668.

The Ascension Island Government noted that these special rates apply strictly to return journeys and cannot be used for single-leg bookings.

So, if you want to spend your Christmas not too far from home, on golden sandy beaches with friends and family on Ascension, then this is your chance.

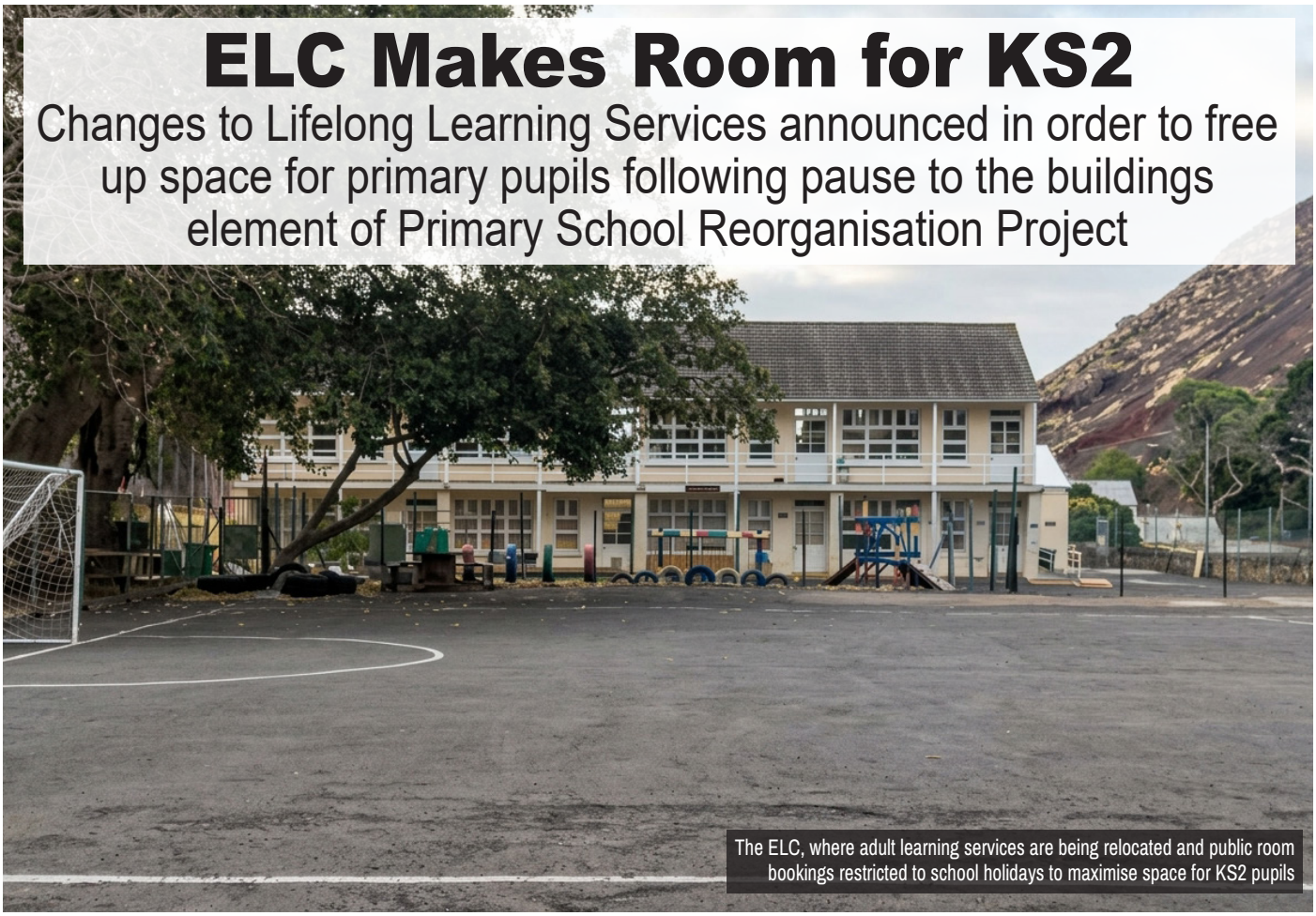
Anyone wishing to book is advised to contact the Flight Bookings team directly via email at flight.bookings@ascension.gov.ac.





ELC Makes Room for KS2

Changes to Lifelong Learning Services announced in order to free up space for primary pupils following pause to the buildings element of Primary School Reorganisation Project



The ELC, where adult learning services are being relocated and public room bookings restricted to school holidays to maximise space for KS2 pupils

Liam Yon, SAMS

St Helena Government has announced significant operational changes to their Lifelong Learning Services, with the temporary relocation of adult education and career support departments out of the Education Learning Centre (ELC), and a change to the availability of rooms and services within the ELC, in order to free up space for the provision of Key Stage 2 Primary School pupils.

The decision stems directly from SHG's announcement, on 24 September, to pause the building and refurbishment elements of the Primary School Reorganisation Project while the underlying two-school model undergoes complete re-evaluation. That pause leaves KS2 pupils temporarily housed at the aging Pilling Primary site until further notice, creating acute demand for additional space at the adjacent ELC facilities, with SHG stating that "the changes (to Lifelong Learning Services) will make additional space available for KS2 school provision during this period."

Under the new directives issued by the Education, Skills, and Employment Portfolio (ESE), the St Helena Community College (SHCC), NVQ Centre, and Career Access St Helena will all shift operations to Carnarvon Court, located at the lower end of Connect St Helena. To facilitate the physical relocation and setting up of offices, SHCC, the NVQ Centre, and Career Access will be closed to the public from Monday, 19 October, to Friday, 23 October, with all relocated services scheduled to officially reopen at Carnarvon Court on Monday, 26 October.

Additionally, as part of changes to ELC operations, SHG informed that new bookings for the ELC's IT Suite, Main Hall, VC Room, and conferencing facilities will all be restricted exclusively to primary school holiday periods, while on-demand examinations will likewise be confined to school holidays. Scheduled ACCA session-based examinations will however continue at the ELC, under "special arrangements" according to government.

These operational pressures at the ELC was highlighted during a live



Pilling Primary School site, where Key Stage 2 pupils remain temporarily housed following the pause in the Primary School Reorganisation Project, driving increased need for space at the ELC

interview on SAMS Radio 1 on Friday, 2 October, when Minister for Education, Skills, and Employment, Andrew Turner, responded to public questions regarding space-sharing between primary pupils and adult services. Addressing the overarching situation, Minister Turner stressed that these spatial adjustments must be viewed within the context of an ongoing review.

"Again, I will come back to that point—this is a pause, this is not the be-all and end-all of the project," Minister Turner said during the broadcast. "We have to think of this in the mind-frame that this isn't forever."

Minister Turner detailed how the department had already begun adapting facilities at the ELC site to maximise classroom space for primary children. "The ICT suites that were in Pilling, that equipment was distributed into the individual classrooms in order to make some more classroom space," he explained. "Key Stage 2 students are doing that—if they need a full ICT suite—down at the college building. So that has meant that we've had to rejig some of the other services around."

In its official announcement, the Education Portfolio acknowledged the friction these changes place on adult learners and community groups. "ESE recognises that these temporary arrangements may cause inconvenience to learners, service users and members of the public," they stated in a press release. "However, the changes are necessary to support wider education provision during this period. The arrangements will remain under review while work continues to consider the future model for the Primary School Reorganisation Project."

Members of the public seeking NVQ or Career Access assistance after 26 October are instructed to visit Carnarvon Court rather than the ELC. Opening hours for Career Access will remain unchanged, and all Sixth Form time books should be delivered directly to Carnarvon Court. Facility bookings for primary school holiday periods can be arranged by emailing shcc.bookings@sainthelena.edu.sh or by calling 22607.



The entrance to Carnarvon Court, located at the lower end of Connect St Helena, which will serve as the new home for the St Helena Community College, the NVQ Centre, and Career Access St Helena

Invitation to Tender

St Helena Island
A breath of fresh air



Construction of a Zulu Monument, Ladder Hill

St Helena Tourism invites tenders for the construction of a monument at Ladder Hill commemorating the 25 Zulu leaders exiled to St Helena between 1907 and 1910.

Works include clearing the site, constructing the monument and surrounding stone wall, in line with the approved design.

Tenders will be evaluated and scored on:

- Health and safety measures on site
- Relevant experience, with references
- Programme of works

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The Scope of Works and tender documents are available from Sophia Joshua, St Helena Tourism.
E: sophia.joshua@sainthelena.gov.sh
T: 22158.

A site visit will be held on **Friday 23rd October 2026, 14.30** at Ladder Hill Viewpoint. Completed tenders must be submitted by **Monday 2 November 2026, 12 noon.**

sthelenatourism.com

"Welcome to St Helena, Strikers!"



One of the new Oshkosh Striker 6x6 ARFF vehicles being carefully lifted ashore by crane from the MV Karoline during weekend operations at Rupert's Jetty.

New state-of-the-art Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting vehicles arrive on the MV Karoline to boost safety and operational resilience at St Helena Airport

Liam Yon, SAMS

St Helena's aviation infrastructure received a major boost over last weekend with the official arrival of two brand-new Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) vehicles for St Helena Airport.

Transported to the island aboard the MV Karoline—which docked last Friday morning, carrying 68 containers and 98.27 tonnes of break-bulk cargo—the heavy-duty appliances were successfully offloaded, marking a pivotal milestone for airport safety and operational resilience.

Celebrating the delivery, St Helena Airport Limited (SHAL) welcomed the new additions, declaring that they have "safely landed and are preparing to enter service soon" via a social media post. Expressing gratitude to key partners, the airport extended a "special thank you to St Helena Government, the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), and Oshkosh ARFF for their support in making the swift delivery of these vehicles possible". The arrival brings long-awaited closure to a procurement process initiated earlier this year.

The two new custom-built Oshkosh Striker 6x6 units represent a massive technological leap forward for the island's emergency response capabilities. Powered by high-performance 670-horsepower Scania DC16 V8 engines and equipped with TAK-4 independent suspension designed for demanding off-runway terrain, the vehicles are built to navigate St Helena's unique landscape swiftly and securely. Each tender carries a formidable payload of 3,000 gallons of water, 420 gallons of foam, and 550 pounds of dry chemical, outfitted with both a high-mounted roof turret and a low-attack bumper turret for direct fire suppression.

With the physical hardware now on island, preparations are quickly shifting toward operational readiness. As such, SHAL confirmed that they "look forward to working closely with Terberg, whose engineers and trainers will soon arrive on island to support commissioning, training, and operational readiness". Once the new ten-



A rear-angle view of the R2 Oshkosh Striker highlighting its heavy-duty build and specialised equipment layout ahead of operational commissioning.

ders are fully commissioned, existing vehicles R1 and R2 will transition into secondary backup roles, while the older R3 unit will be permanently decommissioned.

The arrival of the new Strikers follows closely on the heels of findings from an independent forensic investigation into the February 2026 major incident at St Helena Airport, which saw commercial flights grounded for ten days after simultaneous mechanical failures across the legacy fleet. The GBB UK Limited report fully exonerated local staff, attributing the failures to hidden internal elastomer breakdowns that were entirely undetectable during routine maintenance.

The commissioning of the new Oshkosh units for St Helena Airport will ensure robust compliance with international regulatory standards, securing long-term reliability for routine commercial flights and medical evacuations alike.

The delivery capped off a busy weekend of port operations at Rupert's Jetty. Having successfully offloaded her cargo, the MV Karoline departed just after 6pm on Sunday, beginning the next leg of her voyage toward Walvis Bay and Lüderitz before docking again in Cape Town.



St Helena Airport's current legacy fleet. Once the new Oshkosh units are fully commissioned, R1 and R2 will transition to secondary backup roles while R3 is permanently decommissioned



Bearing the official St Helena Airport crest and designated R1 and R2, the two newly arrived fire tenders rest on the jetty following successful offloading

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Julie Lawrence, Procurement Manager via 22207 procurementmanager@solomons.co.sh

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A Fine for Crime

New Fixed Penalty Notice system rolls out 1 November, trading formal court prosecutions for quick-resolution fines across specified minor offences, which, for now, does not including parking offences



Under the new scheme launching on 1 November, enforcement officers will be empowered to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for specified low-level police and environmental offences

Littering and illegal waste disposal are among the 18 specified offences covered under the initial FPN rollout, allowing minor environmental infringements to be settled with a fixed financial fine.

Liam Yon, SAMS

St Helena Government has officially announced that Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) will come into effect across the island from 1 November.

The system—which has been in administrative development following initial legislation passed in 2020 and updated regulations in 2022 and 2025—is designed to allow individuals who commit low-level infringements, such as environmental or minor police offences, to resolve the matter by paying a set financial fine.

SHG explained that paying an FPN does not constitute an admission of guilt, avoids formal court prosecution, and leaves no criminal record, with reduced penalty rates available for early payments.

This formal announcement, made via an SHG Press Release last week, follows discussions during a recent Ministers' Question Time session, where Minister for Safety, Security and Home Affairs, Gillian Brooks, updated elected members on the scope of the rollout.

"Fixed penalty notices will come into force on 1 November this year, as I advised all members at our meeting last week," she said in response to a question by Councillor Dennis Leo. "The intention is to launch fixed penalty notices starting with marine, terrestrial, environmental, and some police offences."

Minister Brooks then made it clear however that the initial rollout of FPN's on St Helena will not, for now, include parking offences due to some additional work needed. "It is very important for me to say here that no parking offences will take effect at this time due to work needed on road markings and signage," she asserted.

During the session, the Minister elaborated on the initial rollout which see said currently covers 18 specified offences. These are littering, illegal waste disposal, damaging property, noise abatement breaches, drunken disorderly conduct, theft, fishing without a licence, and unapproved possession of a spear gun or scuba fishing gear, among others.

The inclusion of theft among the initial offences drew sharp concern from Councillor Derek Thomas, who noted that theft can be considered "too serious" a matter to be settled with a penalty notice. In response, Minister Brooks reassured Council that police retain full discretion to prosecute more severe or repeat offences through standard court channels. She added that enforcement officers will follow strict guidelines, with a formal appeals process built into the system.

Minister Martin Henry also spoke to the discussion, where he urged balance and cautioned against over-enforcement of FPNs so that penalty notices do not become an easy revenue tool or an added taxation on the public.

In their Press Release, SHG noted that, ahead of the FPN rollout, they would be launching an island-wide public information campaign across local radio, newspapers, social media, and community engagement meetings to explain how notices will be issued, how to pay or challenge a notice, and the specific offences included under the new scheme.

SHG concluded by encouraging members of the public to engage with the campaign and to take the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the new arrangements before they are applied on 1 November this year.



Property damage is included under the 18 initial offences. The FPN scheme allows such minor offences to be resolved via a set financial penalty without going to court.

International Workers for the Private Sector?



SHG launch feasibility study to explore overseas labour recruitment for the island's private sector

Liam Yon, SAMS

Following efforts earlier this year to fill public service vacancies with overseas recruitment, the St Helena Government is now looking into whether a similar scheme could help the island's private sector overcome growing labour shortages.

As such, St Helena's Trade and Investment team has formally invited Expressions of Interest for an independent scoping study to assess the feasibility of a locally based international labour-hire service.

The initiative aims to address severe skills shortages across the island, driven by St Helena's declining and ageing working-age population.

While the government previously expanded international recruitment beyond the UK to fill critical public sector roles—such as healthcare and care workers—this new study turns its attention to private enterprise.

The study will initially focus on the agricultural sector before evaluating labour needs across other local businesses. It will examine employer demand, identify necessary updates to St Helena's immigration and employment laws, and tackle logistical challenges such as travel and housing for incoming workers.

Safeguards around ethical recruitment and worker protection will also form a key part of the assessment, drawing on lessons from similar schemes in other small island communities.

The final report will provide government with a clear business case on whether to proceed, refine, or halt the concept.

Interested consultants have until Friday, 30 October, to submit their proposals, with an appointment expected by mid-November. Further details are available directly through Head of Trade and Investment, Michael Ormrod. The expression of interest advert can be found in this edition of The Sentinel.



Achoo and Bless You!

Health Section reminds the public about upcoming flu vaccination campaign, while reaffirming that this vaccine has "an excellent safety profile"



The Health and Social Care Portfolio is preparing to roll out approximately 2,000 flu vaccines to protect vulnerable groups ahead of the peak travel season

Anita Robbertse, SAMS

The Health and Social Care Portfolio will be launching a flu vaccination campaign on island to protect the island's community against the peak flu season in the Northern hemisphere during December and January.

In an interview with SAMS Radio 1, Dr Jake Asplin from the Public Health team said past experience has revealed that St Helena is particularly vulnerable to the influenza virus strain outbreaks affecting the UK every winter. This is mainly due to increased travel between St Helena and the UK during this time of the year; also acknowledged as the island's peak tourism season.

Dr Jake explained that influenza, or the flu as it is commonly known, is not the same as a common cold, although there are some cross-over in symptoms between the two groups of viruses. The symptoms for influenza are much more severe and can cause serious complications, even requiring hospitalisation in some cases, which is almost never the case with a common cold.

Eligible individuals were asked to register their interest to receive the flu vaccine with the Public Health section, enabling them to gauge the number of vaccines required.The flu vaccines are quite costly and needs to be adapted annually, with the virus changing every season.The World Health Organisation determines the most likely strains that will form part of outbreaks affecting the population, formulating vaccines to target these strains, optimising protection. In the end it was decided to order in the region of 2000 vaccines to be able to allow for all individuals that fall into the eligibility criteria to receive it.

Dr Jake explained that the island's eligibility criteria is in line with the UK to include all persons aged 65 years and over, children between the ages of 2 and 16, anyone with an underlying medical condition, pregnant women and all individuals in long-stay residential facilities. In addition, the vaccine will be offered to all individuals who take care of the elderly, disabled and anyone with a weakened immune system. Furthermore, all frontline health and social care workers are encouraged to receive the vaccine to ensure these essential services can continue functioning optimally.

School-aged children are being offered the opportunity to be vaccinated at schools, similar to routine immunisations administered by school nurses. Parents should have already received letters to obtain permission for their children to be vaccinated at schools. The vaccination program is planned to run throughout November once the vaccines have arrived on-island. A schedule for drop-in clinics will be announced as soon as everything has been finalised, with individuals also offered the opportunity to receive the vaccinations at routine community health clinics.

Dr Jake reassured the public that these vaccinations are completely safe. "The vaccine we ordered is an inactivated influenza vaccine," which means that the vaccine can in no way cause recipients to develop a flu infection. "'This means that almost everybody on earth can receive this vaccine," he elaborated. The only people who cannot receive the vaccine is anyone who has had a severe life-threatening allergic reaction to a flu vaccine in the past. "The only other time where we will ask you to delay the vaccine is if you have already got a feverish illness," he added, "then we will ask you to just delay receiving the vaccine." The flu vaccine is delivered to millions of people around the world every year and they "have an excellent safety profile," he concluded, to put everyone's minds at ease.

For more information on the upcoming flu vaccination programme, contact the Health Promotion Team on telephone number 25949 or via email healthpromotion@sainthelena.gov.sh.

We're Going Up, We're Going Up and...

"It's definitely going to go up" says Financial Secretary amid global fuel costs and the effect on St Helena, though for now, it's business "as per usual" for the MV Karoline during uncertain times in the Middle East



Solomon's Bulk Fuel Installation in Rupert's Valley. With fuel prices rising internationally, the Financial Secretary says prices are 'definitely going to go up'.

Donna Crowie, SAMS

South Africa has recently announced increased fuel costs for both petrol and diesel.

With St Helena Government purchasing its fuel from Namibia, this South African cost increase will therefore have an effect on St Helena's fuel supplies.

Both Petrol and Diesel in South Africa has increased by around 15p per litre.

During a recent 'In the Know' programme on SAMS Radio 1, produced by Ministers, Financial Secretary, Dax Richards, said "that international events could be such that, potentially, the price could go down or the price could go up."

As such, SHG are monitoring the fuel cost on a daily basis to find a price that best fits St Helena. Dax went on to say that "we work very closely with Solomon's and our suppliers in Namibia," adding that SHG are "also looking at some alternative supplies right now in terms of, again, giving us choice or seeing how we can get the best value for St Helena."

The fuel procurement process for St Helena usually starts around 18 months ahead of the fuel tanker arriving to the island. As it stands, no fuel has yet been purchased for the next shipment, which is due to arrive in early December, as SHG aims to identify the best solution for the island, particularly with regard to cost. With that said, the Financial Secretary was honest, stating with certainty that "it's definitely going to go up" due to global trends on fuel costs.

With SHG working towards better openness and transparency, they made the decision, following the last consignment of fuel to the island, to publish a full breakdown of the fuel costs and how the retail price is worked out on the island. This was welcomed by the community to better understand the changes to fuel prices on this island and therefore it is hoped that this will continue following the arrival of the next fuel consignment in early December.

A rise in global fuel costs does not just have an effect on the price at the pumps on the island, but also affects St Helena's freight service vessel, the MV Karoline. As such, The Sentinel reached out to MACS Shipping for a comment on the effect that these rising fuel costs are having on their service.

"Fuel price increases obviously do affect our bottom line, as the costs for a roundtrip are significantly higher," they noted, while stating that, even though times are uncertain, for now it is business as usual. "Obviously, nobody knows how much longer the crisis in the Middle East will continue and what it will do to the price of oil, but for the time being we will carry on as per usual," they concluded.



Fuel tanker, MT Talisker, delivered St Helena's last fuel consignment in July. SHG is currently monitoring global market trends daily to secure the best value for the island's next shipment

SAMS RADIO 1 SCHEDULE

SAMS Radio 1

102.7 (Jamestown) • 90.5 (High Knoll) • 105.1 (Sunberry) • 105.3 (Blue Hill)

Streaming live via www.sams.sh/radio.html

FRI. Oct 16
- 7am - 10am: Sunrise Show with Luke Bennett
- 5:30-7pm: OUT OUT! with Liam
- 7:30pm: Country Classics (Repeat)

SAT. Oct 17
- 9am-11: Indie Waves with Sue (Repeat)
- 3pm: Country Chart Show (Repeat)
- 5pm: In the know
- 6pm: Artists through the Decades with Deon & Anita
- 8:30pm: OUT! OUT! with Liam (Repeat)

SUN. Oct 18
- 7am-noon: Sunday Show with Liam Yon
- 1pm:Interveiw hour
- 3:30-5pm: UK Chart Show with Liam Yon
- 5pm: Island Pulse
- 7pm: Baptist Church Service
- 20:30: Classical Compilations with Anita

MON. Oct 19
- 7am-10am: Sunrise with Luke Bennett
- 11am: Let's talk health
- 3-5pm: DNA with Deon & Anita
- 5:30pm: Country Classics with Donna
- 7:30pm In The Know

TUE. Oct 20
- 7am-9:00am: Morning Show with Donna
- 11am: Vibes with Anita
- 2pm: Island Pulse
- 3:30pm: American Connections with Brian Clough
- 5:30-7pm: UK Chart Show with Liam Yon
- 7:30pm: Classical Compilations with Anita

WED. Oct 21
- 7am: Morning show with Deon
- 11am: Indie Wave with Sue
- 1pm: 1548 with Ferdie
- 4-7pm: Afternoon Drive with Luke Bennett
- 7:30pm: Let's talk Health

THU. Oct 22
- 7am - 10am: Sunrise with Liam & Luke
- 3-5pm: Vibes with Anita (Repeat)
- 5-7pm: Modern Country Chart with Donna
- 7:30pm: The Island Pulse

sure

Bringing you the

BBC World Service

100.7 (Briars)

88.1 (High Knoll)

102.7 (Blue Hill)

Featured this Week





Join Luke this Friday where he'll be getting you into the Friday mood with a variety of tunes to get you ready to see off the day and tackle the weekend. The last hour of the show will be reggae hour to help you get those weekend vibes. So, tune into the Sunrise Show from 7am to 10am only on SAMS Radio one!

Local news and notices:
7am, 10am, noon, 5pm, 7pm, 10pm

Reach us on ***22727*** or at ***news@sams.sh***

SAMS South Atlantic Media Services Ltd

Sentinel Sudoku Session

This week's difficulty is 'EXPERT'

See solution to last week's Sudoku Puzzle:

8	4	2	9	1	7	6	5	3
1	6	7	5	3	2	9	8	4
3	9	5	8	4	6	2	7	1
2	5	6	1	7	8	4	3	9
4	1	9	2	5	3	8	6	7
7	8	3	4	6	9	5	1	2
5	7	1	6	9	4	3	2	8
6	2	4	3	8	1	7	9	5
9	3	8	7	2	5	1	4	6

8			7					
	3			9	8		2	
4						5		
3				1	7			4
			6				1	
	7		2					
		9						2
				6				
	8			3	1		9	

Throwback Thursday



15th October 1815:

HMS Northumberland arrives with Napoleon. Also arriving are HMS Icarus, HMS Havannah, HMS Peruvian, HMS Zenobia, HMS Red Pole, HMS Bucephalus and HMS Ceylon. The last two ships transported the 53rd Regiment. Napoleon steps ashore two days later.

(sainthelenaisland.info)

Gingerbread Mummies



Ingredients

Biscuits

- 375 g plain flour
- 1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 3 tsp ground ginger
- 120 g unsalted butter (cold & cubed)
- 175 g light brown soft sugar
- 5 tbsp golden syrup
- 1 medium egg

Decoration

- 250 g ready to roll white icing
- 250 g royal icing sugar
- Edible eye sprinkles

Method

Biscuits

1. Preheat your oven to 190°C/180°C fan and line 3 baking trays with parchment paper.
2. Add the plain flour, bicarbonate of soda, and ground ginger to a large bowl and add the cold, cubed unsalted butter to the bowl.
3. Rub the mixture together with your fingertips until it resembles breadcrumbs! (Or mix the four ingredients in a food processor till its breadcrumbs!)
4. Mix the sugar into the mix and combine, and then add the golden syrup and egg - beat with a spatula/ your hands until it is a smooth dough.
5. Knead the biscuit dough in the bowl slightly to bring it together and then roll the dough out onto a lightly floured work surface.
6. Roll it out to 1/2cm thickness and cut out your desired shapes - we made 16 'dead' people!
7. Place them on the lined baking trays and bake in the oven for 10-11 minutes, cool on a wire rack fully.

Decoration

1. Once the biscuits have been cooled fully, you can decorate them.
2. Roll the icing out quite thinly on to a surface dusted with regular icing sugar.
3. Carefully cut out the same size shapes as the people you made earlier, and stick these to the biscuits using some water brushed on with a pastry brush. I did this on half of the biscuits.
4. In a bowl, add the royal icing sugar.
5. Pour in 20ml of water, and start to beat - you really want to try and mix it in before adding any more water as the mixture needs to be really thick - gradually add more as you go. You do not want to add more than 35 ml of water as it will not work.
6. Once the royal icing sugar is thick and lovely - use a piping bag with a small petal tip to pipe stripes of 'cloth' onto the 'dead' people to make the mummies!
7. I piped more onto the plain biscuits, and only a few strips of cloth onto the mummies with fondant icing on.
8. Add some edible eye sprinkles per biscuit, using the royal icing as glue.

The Island Pulse

Health Services Under Scrutiny: Councillors Seek Answers on Access, Staffing and Care for an Ageing Population



— **Cllr Julie Thomas,Communication Champion,** Contributed

The *Island Pulse* examines workforce pressures, waiting times, preventative healthcare and the growing demand for care, with Councillors seeking measurable improvements and sustainable solutions.

Health services and the challenges of delivering better outcomes for patients were the focus of the latest edition of SAMS Radio 1's The Island Pulse, hosted by Councillor Julie Thomas and featuring all seven Councillors following October's Minister's Question Time (MQT).

Held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday, **6 October, the session focused on "Health Services – Delivering Better Outcomes"**, with each Councillor putting a primary question to the Minister for Health and Social Care, Martin Henry, followed by supplementary questions.

The discussion examined how public investment is translating into improved services, whether staffing levels are sufficient to meet demand, and how Government intends to address the island's longer-term healthcare needs.

Staffing, recruitment and training

Councillor Clint Beard opened by asking for an update on staffing levels, vacancies, recruitment initiatives and services affected by workforce shortages.

He reported that the portfolio's budget had increased by 22% to approximately £11.866 million, with around 250 staff employed. However, nursing shortages remained a concern.

Mr Beard said the Minister's response did not clearly identify which services had been reduced or affected by staffing constraints. He also sought details of the budget allocated to training and whether the benefits of international recruitment had been evaluated.

Councillor Denis Leo noted that the Minister had suggested some questions might be better addressed through a formal Legislative Council session, allowing more time to collate information. He also highlighted the difficulty of identifying training expenditure because costs were spread across several budget headings. The Minister had identified 23 vacancies within Health and Social Care.

Councillor Julie Thomas highlighted the challenge of retaining locally qualified nurses, some of whom leave the island after qualifying. She also questioned how returning St Helenians would be encouraged to fill vacancies when no dedicated funding allocation had been confirmed.

The Minister had referred to cooperation with Education on training and qualifications, including a target for 90% of staff to obtain the Care Certificate. Councillors nevertheless raised concerns about whether existing staffing levels allowed both services to be maintained and staff to develop professionally.

Waiting times, diagnostics and overseas referrals

Councillor Robert Midwinter asked what progress had been made in reducing waiting times for specialist appointments, diagnostics and overseas referrals, and what targets had been set for the three-year budget period.

The Minister acknowledged that the existing strategic delivery plan only extended to 2027 and committed to updating it.

Eye care featured prominently, with 1,312 patients reportedly seen in 2025 and a further 930 in 2026, against a target of 1,200. The Minister highlighted the high incidence of cataracts and diabetes-related eye disease on St Helena. He also reported improvements in hearing-aid provision, supported by BIOT funding, and overseas referrals averaging approximately 10–12 patients per month.

Mr Midwinter sought details of plans to expand local diagnostic and specialist capacity beyond eye and hearing care. The Minister cited knee and hip replacements being undertaken on-island, with estimated savings of £12,000 – £15,000 per operation. However, he explained that savings were being quickly absorbed by increased medical evacuation costs.

Councillor Clint Beard added that the Minister had cited replacing machinery could cost more than £4 million and that previously cleared waiting-list backlogs were beginning to build again.

Mr Midwinter also raised a public question about assessments for chronic neurological conditions. The Minister recalled that a specialist had visited approximately three months earlier, with around 40 – 50 patients undergoing diagnostic work. He noted that neurological assessments often require multidisciplinary teams and equipment unavailable locally.

The discussion highlighted the difficulty of sustaining improvements without continued funding and sufficient specialist capacity.

Investment and measurable outcomes

Councillor Ronald Coleman asked how the significant public expenditure allocated to Health and Social Care in the 2026/27 budget would translate into tangible improvements for patients.

The Minister referred to £2.2 million in funding, alongside substantial staffing expenditure, rising drug costs and difficulties obtaining medicines. BIOT funding had provided additional assistance.

Although no dedicated equipment fund was available for the year, the portfolio was seeking to treat more patients on-island and bring in specialists where possible.

Preventative healthcare was another priority, with work being delivered in manageable stages across the community and schools, particularly to address diabetes.

Access to primary healthcare

Councillor Denis Leo asked what Government was doing to improve access to GP appointments, routine clinics and community healthcare, and what performance indicators would demonstrate progress.

The Minister reported that five doctors were undertaking more than 600 appointments monthly, while nurses delivered over 1,000 appointments across their services. The aim was to reduce GP appointment waiting times from

approximately two weeks to seven to ten days, with an ambition for 90% of appointments to be achieved within ten working days.

Mr Leo raised reports that patients had been required to return home to telephone for hospital appointments rather than book them while attending the hospital. The Minister was unaware of this practice and undertook to investigate.

Councillors also stressed the importance of cancelling appointments that patients could not attend, allowing others to use those slots.

Councillor Robert Midwinter asked whether access standards and performance results could be published regularly. The Minister explained that data was currently compiled manually, making regular reporting difficult.

Councillor Clint Beard also referred to plans for a patient questionnaire to gather feedback.

Councillor Julie Thomas questioned when the PatientSource system would become operational, noting that improved digital systems should support more efficient administration and regular public reporting.

An ageing population and growing care needs

Councillor Derek Thomas asked how Government was preparing for increasing demand for residential care, domiciliary care and community support as the population ages.

The Minister acknowledged the need for additional care facilities but identified funding as a major obstacle.

Councillor Derek Thomas noted that the Economic Development Investment Programme (EDIP) was a possible funding route, although competing demands made this uncertain.

The Minister was unable to provide the number of people waiting for residential care. Councillor Derek Thomas highlighted concerns about patients remaining in hospital because suitable care placements were unavailable.

He also questioned whether support for family carers would increase. Some people providing full-time care, seven days a week, receive £80 per week. Although the Minister recognised the need for an uplift, no firm funding commitment was reported.

Councillor Derek Thomas argued that supporting people to remain at home for as long as possible could reduce pressure on residential facilities. However, shortages of part-time carers and difficulties providing domiciliary visits remained significant challenges.

Councillor Ronald Coleman noted that, although EDIP was not intended primarily for social projects, funding for the prison might provide grounds to explore support for an elderly care facility. He also reported that changes at the CCC, including relocating the physiotherapy unit, had made three additional rooms available for elderly care.

Councillor Julie Thomas questioned whether the Ageing Demographic Situational Analysis had been formally adopted by the portfolio. The Minister referred to its availability online, but she noted that it remained published as a working paper in draft.

The Minister estimated residential care costs at £25,000 – £30,000 per person annually. Councillor Julie Thomas also sought an update on the proposed shift-work system for domiciliary care, which remained under testing and had not been fully implemented.

Preventative healthcare and chronic disease

Councillor Dr Corinda Essex asked about existing and planned preventative health programmes and the evidence used to assess their effectiveness.

The Minister identified diabetes as a principal focus, with initiatives aimed at preventing people at risk from developing the condition and helping diagnosed patients manage its effects. Dr Essex welcomed the reported cases in which patients had been able to stop taking medication, noting that more than 1,000 people on the island live with diabetes.

She also questioned progress on smoking cessation and substance misuse programmes. The Minister indicated that these remained priorities and that more targeted initiatives were expected in the coming months. Specialist assistance was anticipated to help finalise the smoking cessation programme, following earlier work that included drafting relevant legislation.

Dr Essex also asked about cooperation between Health and Education on health promotion in schools. The Minister referred to activities in the secondary school and engagement with organisations such as New Horizons to encourage healthier lifestyles.

Dr Essex stressed the importance of reaching young people early to reduce the island's future burden of chronic disease. Councillor Julie Thomas added that the Minister had highlighted the recruitment and retention of Dr Jacob, funded by the UK Health Security Agency (HSA), whose specialist area is chronic disease. The discussion also covered MMR vaccination and health promotion on eye care, dental care and sexually transmitted infections.

The Minister's three priorities

Councillor Julie Thomas concluded the questioning by asking the Minister to identify his three highest priorities for the financial year and the measurable outcomes expected.

From the response, she identified three principal areas:

- Prevention and control of chronic diseases, particularly diabetes.
- Timely access to on-island care, including GP appointments and elective surgery.
- Workforce stability and sustainable services, ensuring sufficient staff to meet demand.

The Minister's stated ambitions included achieving 90% of GP appointments within ten working days and reducing elective surgery waiting times to 18 weeks. He also referred to implementing the Human Resources Recruitment Strategy and moving successful trials into established programmes.

Councillor Julie Thomas reiterated her concerns about the lack of dedicated funding to encourage returning St Helenians. Councillor Denis Leo added that some staff were unable to undertake training because of workload pressures and staff shortages.

Councillor Julie Thomas said this required further attention, as limited opportunities for staff development could undermine service delivery. She also called for preventative healthcare strategies and policies to be made available, providing a clear framework for the island's approach.

Opportunities for public engagement

The programme concluded with an update on constituency meetings, giving residents opportunities to question their representatives and share concerns directly with Government.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, 15 October, at Blue Hill Community Centre at 7.30pm, with all five Ministers expected to attend.

Further meetings were announced for Monday, 19 October, at Jamestown Community Centre, for residents of Alarm Forest, Ruperts and Jamestown, co-chaired by Councillors Dr Corinda Essex and Julie Thomas; and Wednesday, 21 October, at Harford Community Centre for Longwood residents, chaired by Councillor Denis Leo. Both meetings are scheduled for 7.30pm.

Councillor Julie Thomas encouraged residents to participate, ask questions and share ideas, emphasising the importance of maintaining communication between the public, Councillors and Government.

The MQT discussion highlighted ongoing initiatives alongside significant challenges in staffing, access, preventative healthcare and care provision for an ageing population. Councillors sought further information, clearer performance measures and sustainable funding arrangements to ensure that commitments translate into lasting improvements.

The central issue remains how St Helena can turn its investment and policy ambitions into measurable outcomes for patients and the wider community.

Unleashing Preparedness

UKHSA specialists join local agencies for intensive training and strategic 'Exercise Black Dog' to test St Helena's new mass casualty response plan against the island's unique challenges



The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) training team who facilitated the week-long mass casualty response workshops and strategic tabletop exercise

Liam Yon, SAMS

St Helena's emergency response capabilities have undergone rigorous evaluation and training following a visit from the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA). Running from 21 to 25 September 2026, the visit formed a central pillar of ongoing efforts to bolster the island's resilience against major emergencies.

The intensive programme followed the formal approval of the Health and Social Care Portfolio's new Mass Casualty Plan, a vital framework designed to establish how the island will manage situations where patient numbers or specific medical needs "exceed available capacity". SHG noted that the new plan complements St Helena's broader Major Incident Response Plan, specifically accounting for the logistical hurdles and geographical isolation inherent to a small island community.

Throughout the week, local personnel participated in a series of targeted familiarisation sessions covering major incident command arrangements, joint multi-agency working, casualty triage and movement, hospital capacity management, communications, and long-term recovery.

The week's training culminated in Exercise Black Dog—a complex, strategic tabletop exercise that brought together senior staff and key partner organisations. The exercise tested St Helena's transition from routine "business-as-usual" operations to a fully coordinated major incident and mass casualty response. It critically evaluated gold, silver, and bronze command structures, casualty management under limited clinical resources, and multi-agency coordination.

Expressing gratitude to the UKHSA and SHG's Emergency Planning Department, Emergency Operations Manager, Michael Gaga-Hale, noted that the newly approved plan accurately reflects the operational realities and capabilities of the Health and Social Care Portfolio. The sessions, he added, were both informative and well organised, successfully highlighting existing strengths while identifying crucial lessons for future implementation.

Extending his thanks to participating



Senior staff, emergency personnel, and representatives from partner organisations who took part in the strategic Exercise Black Dog



Senior staff, emergency personnel, and representatives from partner organisations who took part in the strategic Exercise Black Dog

partner organisations, including the St Helena Red Cross, Michael emphasised the core takeaway of the drills. "Effective emergency preparedness depends on agencies working together, and the programme provided a valuable opportunity to strengthen those relationships and our collective response," he said.

Echoing those sentiments, Head of Social Care, Tracy Poole-Nandy, welcomed the programme as an excellent opportunity to review updated protocols across multiple tiers. "I found the whole exercise an excellent opportunity to test the updated mass casualty plan from an operational and strategic perspective," she commented. "The week was really well planned and executed by Anel, Michael, Peter, Lizzy and Grace as part of the ongoing partnership work with the UKHSA. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to the overall learning."

The visit also highlighted a broader, multi-year partnership. Peter Davison, Head of the National Response Centre for UKHSA, explained that the collaboration has spanned the past three years under the UKHSA UK Overseas Territories (UKOT) Health Security Programme—funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's (FCDO) Resilient Economies Programme. Throughout this time, specialists have reviewed past responses, delivered tailored training, and worked alongside teams and Ministers across tactical, operational, and strategic levels.

Reflecting on how Exercise Black Dog tested these frameworks in practice, Peter noted how the simulation challenged local colleagues to balance emergency priorities with ongoing public services. "The exercise provided the opportunity for SHG colleagues to consider and review their roles and responsibilities within the plan and set out the response priorities, whilst maintaining service delivery."

Concluding his remarks, Peter praised the dedication of the local teams and the unique value of the cross-territory exchange. "It has been a rewarding experience to work with the dedicated team from SHG to support the development of both the Mass Casualty plan and Exercise Black Dog," he reflected. "This has given our team an insight into the unique challenges faced in a small island context and allowed our experience and resource to support SHG's work, providing external challenge to help strengthen preparedness and response arrangements for future emergencies."

The Health and Social Care Portfolio has formally extended its thanks to the UKHSA team, the Emergency Planning Department, all participating partner organisations, and local staff who ensured the week's exercises were a resounding success.



Participants engaged in multi-agency tabletop discussions during Exercise Black Dog, testing the transition from routine operations to major incident command



Members of the local Emergency Planning Department alongside visiting UKHSA trainers

SCHOOL PAGE

News from KS2 School

KS2 School Celebrates Teacher Appreciation Day

Recognising the dedication, commitment and invaluable contributions of our teaching team

Miss Anne Clarke, Contributed

On Monday, 5 October, KS2 School joined in recognising Teacher Appreciation Day, celebrating the dedication, commitment and hard work of teachers and support staff who make a lasting difference in the lives of children.

Teaching is about much more than delivering lessons. It involves inspiring young minds, nurturing confidence, encouraging curiosity and helping every child reach their full potential. Behind every successful classroom is a team of dedicated professionals who work tirelessly to create a positive, supportive and stimulating learning environment.

At KS2 School, Teacher Appreciation Day provided an opportunity to reflect on the valuable contributions of the entire teaching team. From planning engaging lessons and supporting individual learning needs to offering encouragement, guidance and care, staff work together to help children grow academically, socially and emotionally.

The day also highlighted the importance of teamwork and leadership in creating a school where both pupils and staff can thrive. The commitment of the school's leadership team, teachers, Higher Level Teaching Assistants, Teaching Assistants, and wider support staff plays an essential role in maintaining high standards, supporting learning and ensuring that every child feels valued.

Miss Elaine Benjamin, *Head Teacher: A Lifetime of Dedication - Why I Still Love What I Do*



"Teaching has been my one and only passion. For as long as I can remember, it is the only job I have ever wanted to do. Even as a young girl, I was drawn to it—marking old textbooks, playing 'schools' at home, and teaching Sunday School. I proudly followed in the footsteps of my father, who was also a Teacher and a Head Teacher. Looking back across 43 incredible years in education (15 years in the classroom and 28 years as a Head teacher), I can still say today with absolute certainty that I love what I do. I have been privileged to work alongside some truly wonderful people—dedicated teachers, incredible pupils, and supportive families. For me, school leadership was never just an administrative role; it was a calling to lift others up. I am deeply proud to have trained, supported, guided, and mentored generations of teachers, helping them grow their confidence so they could ignite that same spark in their own classrooms. Above all, I am proud to have made a meaningful difference in the lives of our children. There is no greater joy than watching the little ones just starting out on their school journey, and then looking at those who are now all grown up, thriving in the world, and doing so well. To know that I played a part in shaping their futures, and that I was woven into the fabric of their lives, is a privilege beyond words. I am truly grateful, deeply humbled, and profoundly honoured to have shared this journey with you all."

Sherell Thomas, Deputy Head:



"What I value most about teaching is the people at the heart of it — the children. I feel incredibly lucky to spend my days surrounded by such wonderful young people, watching them learn, grow in confidence and become the amazing individuals they are destined to be. The recent reorganisation has brought me into KS2 and opened up an exciting new chapter. What makes it even more special is being part of such a bril-

liant team. It's the relationships we build, the moments we share and seeing our children flourish that make teaching such a rewarding and special profession."

Roxanna Williams, Higher Level Teaching Assistant: *Why I Love Teaching*



"When I think about why I love teaching, I think back to the little girl I once was.

As a child, I struggled to focus and often lacked confidence in my own abilities. There were days when I doubted myself, felt frustrated, or wondered if I was good enough. But I was lucky enough to have teachers who saw something in me that I couldn't always see in myself.

I remember the teachers who believed in me when I didn't believe in myself. The ones who encouraged me to try again when I wanted to give up. The ones who were patient when I struggled, celebrated the little victories, and reminded me that getting something wrong didn't mean I couldn't eventually get it right.

Most importantly, I remember the teachers who noticed me. The ones who could tell when I was having a difficult day. The ones who offered a smile, a kind word, a helping hand, or simply made me feel like I mattered. Sometimes, it wasn't even the lesson they taught me that stayed with me—it was the way they made me feel.

And somewhere along the way, I realised that I wanted to be that person for someone else.

I wanted to be the teacher who notices the child sitting quietly at the back. The teacher who sees beyond a difficult behaviour and asks, "I wonder what's really going on?" The teacher who celebrates the child who finally gets something right after trying ten times. The teacher who encourages the child who says, "I can't," to take one more little step and discover, "actually, I can."

Because teaching isn't just about reading, writing, maths, or meeting learning objectives. It's about building confidence, creating memories, giving children a safe place to be themselves, and helping them discover that they are capable of more than they sometimes believe.

Over the years, I've learned that some of the biggest moments in teaching aren't always the ones that appear on a piece of paper. Sometimes it's the child who finally puts their hand up. The child who walks into school smiling because they feel safe. The child who says, "I did it!" after believing they couldn't. Or the child who simply needs someone to believe in them for a little while until they learn to believe in themselves.

And I know how much that can mean because I was once that child.

Teaching has also given me some of the most rewarding relationships and memories of my career. I've had colleagues who have supported me, encouraged me, picked me up on difficult days, and reminded me why I chose this profession in the first place. I've learned that being a teacher doesn't mean having all the answers—it means being willing to learn, grow, listen, and keep showing up.

I don't think I chose a career in teaching because I had everything figured out as a child. I chose this career because I remember what it felt like not to. And if I can make even one child feel the way those teachers made me feel—seen, supported, capable, and believed in—then I know I'm exactly where I'm meant to be.

That's why I love teaching. Because sometimes, the teacher you become is inspired by the teachers you needed when you were little."

Teacher Appreciation Day serves as a reminder that education is a shared effort, built on patience, compassion, perseverance and a genuine belief in every child's potential. The success of a school depends not only on what happens in the classroom, but also on the teamwork, dedication and care shown by every member of staff.

While one day provides a special opportunity to express gratitude, the impact of teachers and support staff is felt throughout the year.

At KS2 School, 5 October was an opportunity to celebrate the people behind the learning, acknowledge their invaluable contributions and say a heartfelt thank you to those who continue to shape the future through education — one lesson, one kind word and one child at a time.

St Helena Government

FAIRNESS INTEGRITY TEAMWORK

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Concept Design & Architectural Renders for St Helena Investment Sites

SHG is inviting Expressions of Interest from architects and designers to create concept visuals renders and artist's impressions for three exciting sites in the Investment Prospectus. We're looking for people who can help investors picture the possibilities.

Please note: this call is for illustrative concept visuals only, to help investors picture future possibilities. It is not a decision to redevelop any site. Any future development proposal would follow a separate process.

BRADLEYS	SUNDALE	HIGH HILL
Well-connected sites near Longwood - envision a modern warehousing or light-industrial hub	180° ocean views - picture a landmark hospitality, commercial or lifestyle destination	Forest retreat setting - imagine eco-retreat linked to the island's post box walks

What we're looking for:

- A concept visual and short design note for one, two, or all three sites
- Examples of your previous design, illustration, or visualisation work
- Your proposed fee per property

Fee: Fixed fee per concept, agreed with SHG before work begins.
Timeframe: Concepts to be delivered within approximately 2-3 months of appointment.
Deadline to apply: 23 October 2026

Send your expression of interest to the Trade and Investment team
invest@sainthelena.gov.sh

Full brief with property details available on request.

These sites reflect priorities in SHG's Sustainable Economic Development Strategy 2023-2033 (www.sainthelena.gov.sh) - including hospitality and ecotourism development, and strategic trade and industrial infrastructure.

NOTICE BOARD

BAPTIST CHURCH

Gospel Outreach Services – Sunday, 18th October
Blue Hill Community Centre, 3pm

Bible Studies
Tuesday, 20th October:
Baptist School Hall, 7pm
Wednesday, 21st October:
Blue Hill Community Centre, 7pm
Thursday, 22nd October:
Sandy Bay Chapel, 5.30pm

SPECIAL EVENTS
Adventure Kids – Age 6-10 yrs old
Saturday, 17th October: Baptist School Hall,
10am to 11.30am

Ladies Meeting
Wednesday, 21st October: Baptist School Hall, 10.30am

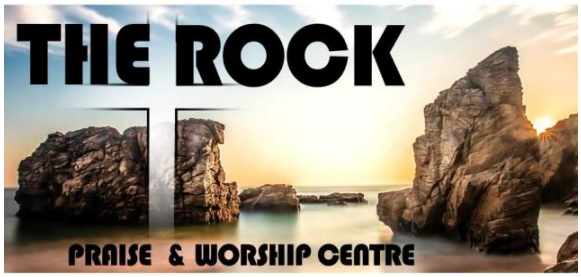
ALL ARE WELCOME

For further information contact: Tel No 22388



DIOCESE OF SAINT HELENA

The Parish of St Paul's		
Sunday 18th October 2026 - 29th Sunday of the Year		
8.00 a.m.	Eucharist	St Peter
9.30 a.m.	Family Eucharist/Church Parade/Harvest Festival/Junior Church	Cathedral
3.30 p.m.	Eucharist/Harvest Festival	St Peter
	Thursday 22nd October	
7.00 p.m.	**Mission Worship and Praise**	**Blue Hill Community Centre**
The Parish of St James		
Sunday 18th October 2026 – 29th Sunday of the Year		
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St James
	Thursday 22nd October	
7.00 p.m.	Heath Workers Service	St John
The Parish of St Matthew		
Sunday 18th October 2026 – 29th Sunday of the Year		
11.15 a.m.	Family Eucharist/Church Parade/Harvest Festival	St Mark
	Tuesday 20th October	
7.00 p.m.	Bible School on Wheels	St Mark



Church Notices

Praise and Worship Service

Sunday 18th October 11.00am

@ The Rock Christian Fellowship Centre, Longwood Avenue.

Kids zone at 11am

Cell Meetings

Tuesday 20th October

Jamestown @ 7pm, (contact Bramwell 64352)

The Rock Christian Fellowship, Longwood Avenue

at 5.30pm Wednesday 21st October.

(Contact: Tav 51727 for details)

Wednesday 21st October 2026

Half Tree Hollow @ 7.00pm, (Contact: Mercy 53227 or Pastor 51672)

Christian Gift/bookshop & DVD rental

The Christian gift/bookshop & DVD rental (as well as second-hand goods shop) is available. For further information call 51672 or 64295

NOTICE BOARD

St Helena Government

FAIRNESS INTEGRITY TEAMWORK

INVITATION TO TENDER

Housing Grounds Maintenance

St Helena Government would like to invite suitably experienced contractors to submit tenders for the following contract:

ED17-2026/27 – Housing Grounds Maintenance

Copies of the tender document and further details can be obtained from the Procurement Officer, on telephone no: 25932 or via email tiffany.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh .

Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box located on the Top Floor, Post Office Building by 12:00 on Wednesday, 21 October 2026, clearly marked **"Tender ED17-2026/27"**.

Interested parties should note that this opportunity is **not** being advertised overseas.

SHG
06 October 2026

JOIN US AT OUR AGM MEETING

ST HELENA AUTISM AWARENESS AND SUPPORT GROUP

28 OCTOBER 2026
6:00PM
ELC - Education Learning Centre

Vacancy

Stock Control Clerk

Since 1790

Salary for the post will commence at £11,196 per annum (£933 per month)

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy within Warrens Wholesale for a Stock Control Clerk.

As the Stock Control Clerk you will provide an efficient service to both customers and the Company operations and assist with the accurate reporting of stock transactions.

Interested Persons Should:

- Be in possession of GCSE English and Math in grade C or above, or equivalent
- Be customer focused and committed to providing excellent customer service
- Possess experience in administration
- Be computer literate namely in the use of Microsoft applications and ideally possess experience working with Access Dimensions
- Have excellent communications and interpersonal skills
- Have the ability to multi-task, prioritise and work to deadlines whilst demonstrating a high degree of accuracy and attention to detail
- Be analytical and have an aptitude for figures
- Have the ability to effectively problem solve and use own initiative
- Able to work on weekends

For further information, including the Company's attractive benefits package contact:

Jean Lawrence, Assistant Wholesale Manager, via 22422 wholesale@solomons.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Main Office Reception, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via hradmin@solomons.co.sh and completed forms should be returned to Anya Thomas, Human Resources Organisation & Development Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **Thursday, 29 October 2026.**

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc offers an attractive benefits package to Employees which includes but are not limited to:

- Pension Contributions
- Staff Discounts

NOTICE BOARD

AUDIT ST HELENA
External Auditors

VACANCY FOR ASSISTANT AUDITOR

Salary range £11,091 to £12,929 per annum
(*Open to applicants residing locally*)

Audit St Helena is seeking to recruit an Assistant Auditor to join its Audit Team.

The person will assist with financial and performance audits across the public sector and will support other business processes. No prior experience in this field is required.

Prospective candidates are required to have good GCSE grades **or** Functional Skills Level 2 in English and Mathematics and be prepared to study for the ACCA Foundations in Accountancy programme.

On the job training will be provided and through training and practical experience, the successful candidate will develop the knowledge and skills required to confidently and efficiently carry out business processes within the workplace.

For further information, Job Profiles and Application Forms please contact Helene Williams by telephoning 22111 or emailing helene.v.williams@sainthelena.gov.sh. Completed application forms should be submitted to this email address or by hand to Audit St Helena, First Floor, New Porteous House, Jamestown, by no later than close of business on **Friday 30 October 2026.**

SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community regardless of race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, and will consider all applications on the basis of merit, in accordance with the person specification. All disabled applicants meeting the minimum criteria listed in the job profile will be guaranteed an interview. All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a medical check and vetting/DBS clearance. SHG reserves the right to have information provided on the application form independently verified.

St Helena Government

FAIRNESS INTEGRITY TEAMWORK

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

International Labour Hire Feasibility & Scoping Study

St Helena Government's Trade and Investment team is seeking an experienced independent consultant or organisation to assess whether recruiting agricultural workers from overseas could help local businesses fill vacancies that have been difficult to fill with local workers. Whilst the study will initially look at agriculture, it will also consider labour needs across other areas of the private sector. It will look at:

- Demand for labour within the private sector, and whether employers would use a locally based international labour-hire service.
- St Helena's immigration and employment law, and any gaps in the way of a sponsored labour route;
- Housing, travel and logistics for incoming workers;
- Delivery models, costs and commercial viability;
- Ethical recruitment and safeguards against exploitation;
- Comparable schemes in small island and remote locations, and potential source markets;
- A business case with a clear recommendation: proceed, refine or do not proceed;

The study will provide St Helena Government with an evidence-based assessment of the feasibility of a locally based international labour-hire service and a clear recommendation on whether to proceed, refine the approach or not proceed. Applicants should have relevant experience in areas such as international recruitment, workforce mobility, ethical recruitment, migration or immigration policy and evidence based business case development. Experience of working in small island, remote or overseas territory environments, and experience undertaking similar work for government or public bodies, would be advantageous.

Applicants who are not based on St Helena must be able to travel to the island and engage appropriately with local businesses, stakeholders and the wider community.

The Expression of Interest will be closed on 30 October 2026, with the appointment expected to be made on 13 November 2026.

For further information or to request the full Expression of Interest document, please contact: Michael Ormrod, Head of Trade and Investment via telephone number, 22470 or email, invest@sainthelena.gov.sh.

SHG

06 October 2026

Lay Advocates Recruitment

Two Positions Open

PUBLIC SOLICITOR OFFICE

Judge Brian Barker KC during a 2023 review of legal services on St Helena praised the role of the lay advocate:

> *"The Lay Advocate System is a tradition in the islands where highly regarded members of the community have rights of advocacy and can be asked to advise and sometimes represent St Helenians in both criminal and civil mattes …. Their community knowledge often allows them to resolve issues without the need to come to court"*

If you think you could be a lay advocate or would like some more information, please contact the Public Solicitor's Office on 23008 or the Public Solicitor on walter.scott@publicsolicitor.com and you will be supplied with more information.

As self-employed advisors, lay advocates are supported in their important role by the Public Solicitor's Office but are independent of the PSO and enjoy the freedom of setting their own hours and working at their own pace.

The role is challenging and can be very busy. Lay advocates need to be available to attend the police station (often out of hours) and court for criminal matters.

The role is financially rewarded through the Legal Assistance Fund depending on experience and hours worked per month. Full details can be made available on request.

If you are interested in the role, please send a Letter of Interest outlining why you think you would make a good lay advocate to walter.scott@publicsolicitor.com by no later than the 23 October 2026.

St Helena Government

FAIRNESS INTEGRITY TEAMWORK

INVITATION TO TENDER

Replacement of Timber Windows at Community Care Complex

St Helena Government would like to invite suitably experienced contractors to submit tenders for the following contract:

SSHA5-2026/27 – Replace Timber Windows with Aluminium Windows at the Community Care Complex

A site visit to view the works will take place on Wednesday, 21 October 2026, at 10:00, meeting at the Community Care Complex, Ladder Hill.

Contractors should note that site visits requested after this date will not be entertained unless there is a relevant reason why the contractor could not attend the scheduled site visit.

Copies of the tender document and further details can be obtained from the Procurement Officer, on telephone no: 25932 or via email tiffany.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh .

Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box located on the Top Floor, Post Office Building by 12:00 on Friday, 30 October 2026, clearly marked **"Tender SSHA5-2026/27"**.

Interested parties should note that this opportunity is **not** being advertised overseas.

SHG, 07 October 2026

NOTICE BOARD

Last Friday the 9th October was one year since we lost our wonderful son Greg Shavon Coleman, which was hard to believe that one year had passed. We want to thank everyone for their love and support shown during this time.

I read the plaque made and placed on the grave by his school mates - Class of 2007 - which was inspirational and I want to share it with our readers of The Sentinel.

It reads: *"We still can't believe you're gone. You weren't just our classmate – you were our brother, our teammate, and the life of every game and gathering. There was no sport you couldn't master, no challenge you wouldn't take on, and no person you couldn't make smile.*

You brought energy, laughter, and heart wherever you went. On the field you were a champion but off the field you were even more kind, loyal and full of life.

You showed us what true sportsmanship and friendship really mean. Though you left us too soon, your spirit will always be part of us. We'll remember your unstoppable drive, your jokes, your victories, and your warmth. You made school unforgettable, and your memory will forever inspire us to live fully – just like you did.

Rest easy, our friend, you'll always be part of our team"

Thanks

Ronald and Bridget



Vacancy

Labourer/Driver

Since 1790

Salary for the post will commence at £10,868 per annum (£209 per week)

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy within Warrens Wholesale for a Labourer/Driver.

As the Labourer/Driver you will provide an efficient service preparing and distributing goods to customers and company outlets.

Interested Persons Should:

- Have basic skills in English & Maths
- Be customer focused and committed to providing excellent customer service
- Be highly motivated with a can-do attitude
- Be able to work effectively in a team environment with the ability to use own initiative
- Be knowledgeable of, and able to carry out manual handling duties as well as undertake physically demanding tasks
- Be able to perform maintenance and minor repair works
- Ideally have cash handling experience
- Have a valid drivers' license, including Class D and ideally Class H3 (Forklift)

For further information, including the Company's attractive benefits package contact:

Jeremy Thomas, Senior Supervisor, via 22422 jeremy.thomas@solomons.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Main Office Reception, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via hradmin@solomons.co.sh and completed forms should be returned to Anya Thomas, Human Resources Organisation & Development Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **Monday, 19 October 2026.**

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc offers an attractive benefits package to Employees which includes but are not limited to:

- Pension Contributions
- Staff Discounts

NOTICE BOARD



OCT
20

The World Odyssey is expected to arrive at St Helena on Tuesday 20 October 2026 at 8am and depart at 8pm.

SHE IS CARRYING:

523 PASSENGERS AND 182 CREW

DID YOU KNOW?

You can offer visitors a personalised way to explore St Helena through local taxi services!

For as little as* £11 a month you can purchase Hire & Reward Insurance – the 'Taxi Cover'.
*Premiums calculated on Engine Size and range from <1400cc at £11 to 6000cc at £26
A Fee of £26.50 will also be payable to SHG, to upgrade your current Private Road License to a Public Service License and will run the length of your current license until your next MOT

With no pre-arranged tours this visit, there is an opportunity for local taxi drivers to offer their own trips, tailored to visitors' interests and schedules.

POPULAR PLACES FOR LOCAL TAXI DRIVERS TO VISIT INCLUDE:

- Two Gun Saddle
- Stitches Ridge
- Napoleon's Tomb
- Plantation House
- Napoleon's House (Longwood Green)
- Ladder Hill Viewing Platform

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU

Offer visitors a friendly local experience, share your knowledge of St Helena And help create lasting memories of their visit.

Set up a Refreshment Stand...Bring along your Locally Made Souvenirs... Contribute to the Visitor Experience! (Contact visit@sainthelena.gov.sh to confirm stall location)

- **Be Friendly**
- **Be Prepared** *(show off your Local Knowledge)*
- **Be Organised**
- **Be Flexible** *(changes may be required due to sea conditions)*



NOTICE BOARD

St Helena Government

FAIRNESS INTEGRITY TEAMWORK

JOIN US! WE ARE RECRUITING…

BENEFITS

- → **Leave** – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays
- → **Pension** – 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme
- → **Training and Development**
- → **Paid sickness absence**

HOW TO APPLY

To access job profiles and application forms online, visit www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/vacancies Alternatively, these are available in paper format from Central Human Resources and Organisational Development at The Castle, Jamestown.

For further information, please contact the recruitment team on telephone number **22470** or via the email address below.

Applications should be submitted through the Director/Line Manager (where applicable) to the Human Resources Officer by email recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh or paper copies delivered to the Human Resources Officer by the closing date.

To be considered for our vacancies, you must complete our application form. Please do not submit your CV.

Small Machinery Operator/Tractor Driver

(£10,464 per annum)

We are seeking a small machinery operator/tractor driver to contribute to the island's prosperity by assisting the Forestry Section with dependable and effective small machinery, herbicide, and tree surgery application services. In instances where the Small Machinery Operator's tasks are not needed, the individual will offer safe tractor driving and operational services to ensure that all necessary forestry operations are conducted safely and efficiently.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Myra Young on Tel No.22470 or Email: myra.young@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 21 October 2026
Shortlisting date: 26 October 2026
Interview date: 05 November2026

Planning Officer – 1-year fixed term

(Local interests only)
(£13,569 per annum)

We are seeking a Planning Officer to work in the Planning Section to help deliver sustainable land uses needed while protecting/conserving the outstanding natural and built environment on St Helena as part of the land development service. We welcome applications from those with a degree but for this level post, someone with "A" Levels (or at least 5 GCSE's) with a genuine interest in Geography, Economics and/or Technical Drawing may find that this suits them. We would look to provide training for the right candidate. You will have good communication skills, and the ability to analyse and summarise information and draft reports for Chief Planning Officer (delegated) or Land Development Control Authority (LDCA) decision. You should be confident in advising members of the public and others of planning law, regulations/orders and processes, be able to negotiate better planning outcomes and present applications at LDCA meetings. You should be able to gather relevant statistics. Again, training if needed, can be provided. You will play a key role, with the Senior Planning Officer and Chief Planning Officer as well as support staff, in meeting targets identified. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

This could also be offered on a secondment opportunity.

Enquiries: Darren Duncan on Tel No. 24724 or Email: darren.duncan@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 28 October 2026
Shortlisting date: 03 November 2026
Interview date: 12 November 2026

The St Helena Public Service welcomes all applications from across our whole community, including our St Helenian diaspora wishing to return to St Helena. If you are a St Helenian currently living and working overseas, please contact us at recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh to discuss how we can support you. SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community, regardless of age, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief and will consider all applications on the basis of merit assessed against the role profile and person specification. All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, which include a medical check, vetting / DBS clearance and references. SHG reserves the right to have information provided on or with the application independently verified. Benefits are subject to change and may vary according to role

St Helena Government

FAIRNESS INTEGRITY TEAMWORK

JOIN US! WE ARE RECRUITING…

BENEFITS

- → **Leave –** 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays
- → **Pension –** 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme
- → **Training and Development**
- → **Paid sickness absence**

HOW TO APPLY

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For further information, please contact the recruitment team on telephone number **22470** or via the email address below.

Applications should be submitted through the Director/Line Manager (where applicable) to the Human Resources Officer by email recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh or paper copies delivered to the Human Resources Officer by the closing date.

To be considered for our vacancies, you must complete our application form. Please do not submit your CV.

Trainee Dental Technician
(£11,604 per annum)

We are looking for a Trainee Dental Technician to join our team and develop the practical skills required to support the provision or repair of dental prosthetics/devices. The trainee will work closely with the Senior Dental Technician & Dentist, on prescription, gaining hands-on training, alongside a structured modular self-directed learning platform, to enhance patient's oral health, appearance, speech & wellbeing. Successful completion of all modular and end-of-training assessments will provide progression to a Grade C5 Salary. Anyone interested in applying is encouraged to contact the Dental Clinic on 25387 to arrange a practical work sample before the closing date. The work sample will assess manual dexterity, attention to detail, and basic aptitude for the role.

Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: **Charmaine Buckley Thomas on Tel No.25387 or Email: Charmaine.buckley@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date: **04 November 2026**
Shortlisting date: **11 November 2026**
Interview date: **18 November 2026**

Overseas Medical Liaison Officer
(£13,569 per annum)

The Overseas Medical Liaison Officer will help to organise, manage, and monitor all matters relating to the referral of patients from St Helena for medical treatment overseas. Execute all travel and accommodation arrangements for patients being referred from St Helena to South Africa, the United Kingdom, or any other country for medical treatment including return arrangements. The duties of the post will also include liaising with the Chief/Senior Medical Officer on expected travel dates and timeframes, and for treatment abroad to aid effective projected costs of referral.

Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: Helen Lawrence on Tel No. 22500 or Email: helen.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: **29 October 2026**
Shortlisting date: **04 November 2026**
Interview date: **18 November 2026**

The St Helena Public Service welcomes all applications from across our whole community, including our St Helenian diaspora wishing to return to St Helena. If you are a St Helenian currently living and working overseas, please contact us at recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh to discuss how we can support you. SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community, regardless of age, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief and will consider all applications on the basis of merit assessed against the role profile and person specification. All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, which include a medical check, vetting / DBS clearance and references. SHG reserves the right to have information provided on or with the application independently verified. Benefits are subject to change and may vary according to role

NOTICE BOARD

St Helena Government

FAIRNESS INTEGRITY TEAMWORK

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BENEFITS

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- → **Training and Development**
- → **Paid sickness absence**

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To be considered for our vacancies, you must complete our application form. Please do not submit your CV.

Head of Economic Development Policy

(£30,560 per annum)

St Helena's Economic Development Portfolio are modernising financial services, growing tourism, opening the island to new investment, and looking to support new economic sectors to create economic growth. We need a senior policy leader to turn strategy into results that people and businesses can feel.

As Head of Economic Development Policy, you will deliver the vision of the SEDS, to create an enabling environment where people and businesses thrive, preserve what makes St Helena unique, and help improve how government delivers.

What you will do

- Own the Economic Development Delivery Plan, including budgeting, strategic planning and Monitoring & Evaluation.
- Advise the Director, Chief Secretary and Minister for Economic Development on all aspects of economic development policy.
- Engage with Executive Council, Legislative Council, businesses and partners to build support for change.
- Remove barriers that hold back local businesses and population growth, working across government.
- Turn policy into legislation where needed, working with the Attorney General's Chambers.
- Develop strategies for new and existing economic sectors.
- Promote St Helena internationally, keeping the investment prospectus, website, and promotional materials current.
- Identify funding sources beyond UKG Assistance and lead bids where appropriate.

What you will bring

- A degree in economics, international development, public policy or a related field, or equivalent experience.
- Significant experience in economic development, including delivering a work plan.
- A track record of writing and implementing policy and strategy.
- Senior leadership experience, building and developing high-performing teams.
- Experience of managing budgets, resources and funding.
- Strong analytical skills and the confidence to present difficult messages clearly.
- Excellent written and verbal communication.

A project or programme management qualification, such as PRINCE2 or MSP, would be an advantage.

Why join us

This is a rare chance to influence a whole economy at a scale where your work is visible. You will work closely with ministers, shape legislation, and see your decisions make a direct difference to the community.

Enquiries:	**Damian Burns on Tel No. 22470 or Email: damian.burns@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date:	**23 October 2026**
Shortlisting date:	**30 October 2026**
Interview date:	**Week commencing 9 November 2026**

The St Helena Public Service welcomes all applications from across our whole community, including our St Helenian diaspora wishing to return to St Helena. If you are a St Helenian currently living and working overseas, please contact us at recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh to discuss how we can support you. SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community, regardless of age, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief and will consider all applications on the basis of merit assessed against the role profile and person specification. All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, which include a medical check, vetting / DBS clearance and references. SHG reserves the right to have information provided on or with the application independently verified. Benefits are subject to change and may vary according to role

NOTICE BOARD

St Helena Government

FAIRNESS INTEGRITY TEAMWORK

JOIN US! WE ARE RECRUITING…

BENEFITS

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- → **Pension –** 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme
- → **Training and Development**
- → **Paid sickness absence**

HOW TO APPLY

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For further information, please contact the recruitment team on telephone number **22470** or via the email address below.

Applications should be submitted through the Director/Line Manager (where applicable) to the Human Resources Officer by email recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh or paper copies delivered to the Human Resources Officer by the closing date.

To be considered for our vacancies, you must complete our application form. Please do not submit your CV.

Portfolio Assistant
(£11,604 per annum)

Help build St Helena's future.
The Sustainable Economic Development Strategy (SEDS) sets out an ambitious plan to grow the island's economy, attract investment and help residents build their own futures.

As Portfolio Assistant, you'll support the Portfolio Director and Minister at the heart of this work, across Trade and Investment, Civil Aviation, Crown Estates and Housing, Tourism, Telecommunications and Financial Services development.

What you'll do

- Manage diaries and keep the Portfolio running smoothly
- Organise Committee meetings and take minutes
- Help prepare Executive Council papers and policy research
- Act as Communications Officer
- Coordinate events, visiting delegations and overseas travel
- Handle enquiries from the public and stakeholders

Why join us?
This entry-level role offers real room to grow, with the chance to build a career in one or more of these policy areas.

What we're looking for

- A Level 2 qualification or equivalent experience
- Strong organisation and communication skills
- Confidence with MS Office and an eye for detail
- Discretion and flexibility for occasional out-of-hours work

If you're organised, curious and want to make a difference, we'd love to hear from you.

Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: Damian Burns on Tel No. 22470 or Email: damian.burns@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 28 October 2026
Shortlisting date: 03 November 2026
Interview date: 12 November 2026

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For further information, please contact the recruitment team on telephone number **22470** or via the email address below.

Applications should be submitted through the Director/Line Manager (where applicable) to the Human Resources Officer by email recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh or paper copies delivered to the Human Resources Officer by the closing date.

To be considered for our vacancies, you must complete our application form. Please do not submit

Community Care Centre Residential Manager
(£21,476 per annum)

Are you compassionate, creative and committed to making a positive difference in the lives of others? If so, Social Care has an opportunity for you to join their team as the Community Care Centre Residential Manager. As a key member of the Social Care team, you will work closely with the Adult Services Team Manager to provide strong leadership and promote high-quality, person-centred care for vulnerable adults living in residential care, while ensuring services meet relevant UK standards for regulated activities. As the Community Care Centre, you will be required to lead the development and implementation of operational systems, procedures, care protocols and social care practices across residential, day and respite services and contribute to safeguarding practices and help maintain a safe, welcoming and supportive environment at the Community Care Centre. As Manager, you will ensure the service has the appropriate accommodation, equipment, staffing, training, nutrition, activities and resources to promote residents' wellbeing and will support effective assessment, care planning and review processes. The role includes participation in an on-call rota and may require shifts, evenings, weekends and occasional public holidays. If you have the leadership experience, creativity and commitment to drive excellence in adult social care, we would be delighted to hear from you. For further information, or to arrange an informal discussion about the role, please contact us.

Enquiries: Rosalie Brown on Tel No. 22920 or Email: rosalie.brown@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 23 October 2026
Shortlisting date: 28 October 2026
Interview date: 10 November 2026

St Helena Research Institute Support Officer
(£11,604 per annum)

The St Helena Research Institute are looking to recruit a Support Officer to join their team. In this rewarding role, you will be responsible for managing a comprehensive database for local and offshore research applications that are relevant to the research processes, and manage the administration process and administrative duties for researchers and SHRI which includes: responding to enquires within three days of receipt of emails, maintain an enquiry log for the Research Institute and give practical advice and guidance to researchers enquiring about and delivering approved research on St Helena and/or direct them to others who can help. The post holder will also be responsible for advising potential researchers of potential/suitable dates for visiting the island and refer them to the relevant specialised personal. For more information or to arrange an informal discussion about the role, please contact us.

Education Skills and Employment is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful candidate will be required to provide proof of identity and qualifications, and will be subject to reference checks, an enhanced police background check, and any other safeguarding checks relevant to the role. We promote equality of opportunity and welcome applications from all sections of the community.

Enquiries: Angela Benjamin on Tel No. 22607 or Email: angela.benjamin@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 23 October 2026
Shortlisting date: 28 October 2026
Interview date: 10 November 2026

The St Helena Public Service welcomes all applications from across our whole community, including our St Helenian diaspora wishing to return to St Helena. If you are a St Helenian currently living and working overseas, please contact us at recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh to discuss how we can support you. SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community, regardless of age, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief and will consider all applications on the basis of merit assessed against the role profile and person specification. All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, which include a medical check, vetting / DBS clearance and references. SHG reserves the right to have information provided on or with the

CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS MONTH 2026

BEHIND THE SCREEN: YOUR SAFETY, YOUR WELL-BEING, YOUR DIGITAL LIFE

1. USE PARENTAL FILTERING APPS:
If you're a parent, use apps like Google Family Link to help protect your children. These apps block adult content, and restrict which apps your children are allowed to install on their devices. They also track your children's online activity across their devices.



2. USE BUILT-IN PARENTAL CONTROLS:
If you're a parent, some Wi-Fi modems and extenders, like the TP-Link 'Deco' line of devices, have built in parental controls which link to an app on your smartphone. This allows you to set filter levels which block content based on age, specifically: child, pre-teen, teen or adult.





SET-UP FILTERING FOR YOUR FAMILY.

The internet is a global digital space that's used by good and bad people alike. If your internet connection is left unfiltered, it could leave you and your family vulnerable to these bad people – hackers, scammers, cyberbullies and online predators. So it's a good idea to set up filtering on your home Wi-Fi Network or on your individual devices. Do this by implementing these tools.



3. USE A DNS FILTERING SERVICE
These services automatically filter out malicious or inappropriate sites. Some also provide phishing email protection, malware protection, ad blocking, as well as other features like safe search which removes inappropriate search results from sites like Google, or Bing. OpenDNS, NextDNS and CloudFlare for families are some providers of these services.

PAUSE, DISCONNECT & PROTECT

NOTICE BOARD

ST HELENA NATIONAL TRUST

FOR SALE BY TENDER

The St Helena National Trust has for "sale by tender" a Landrover Defender 110, formerly registered as 3393. This vehicle is currently off the road and requires some work and will be sold on an 'as is where is basis'.

Viewing for this vehicle has been set for Wednesday, 21 October, 2026 at 10am and persons interested in viewing should, in the first instance, contact Amanda Constantine, Office Manager on telephone number 22190 or email amanda.constantine@trust.org.sh

Offers should be made in writing to the Director SHNT and handed to the Office Manager at Broadway House in a sealed envelope marked 'Tender - Vehicle 3393' by no later than 4pm on Monday, 26 October 2026.

Broadway House, Jamestown, St Helena Island, South Atlantic Ocean

Telephone: +290 22190 Email: info@trust.org.sh www.trust.org.sh

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If a little financial assistance is all you need to make this year's celebration a little more magical, our unsecured personal loans up to £5,000 might be what you're looking for.

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up to £5,000

FOUR SIMPLE STEPS

1. Decide what you would like to use your loan for this Christmas.
2. Complete your loan application form and submit it to the Lending Section. You can complete and submit your application online.
3. Following application processing, an appointment will be arranged for you to sign your loan agreement and receive your funds. A minimum of 3 weeks is required.
4. Repay your loan as agreed in your loan agreement, over a maximum term of 3 years.

Apply online; or submit your application to the Lending Section. For further details call +290 22390 or personallending@sainthelenabank.com

Applications should be submitted no later than 2 December for applications to be processed by the 24 December.

Terms and Conditions Apply

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www.sainthelenabank.com

NOTICE BOARD

St Helena Government

FAIRNESS INTEGRITY TEAMWORK

GROW ST HELENA

Agricultural Innovation Award

Got an idea for farming or aquaculture on St Helena? Pitch it for a share of £10,000

St Helena Government is looking for the island's most promising agriculture business ideas, and we want to help turn them into real, trading businesses.

Up to £10,000 is available across up to three winners!

1st PRIZE	2nd PRIZE	3rd PRIZE
Up to £5,000	**Up to £3,000**	**Up to £2,000**

What can the award support?

- **Equipment and set-up costs -** tools, equipment and small scale infrastructure to start or expand your business.
- **Land lease support -** access to SHG-owned land, or help securng a private lease
- **Training -** SHG-arranged mentors and trainers, or training you source yourself

Who can apply?

- Anyone aged 18 or over with an agricultural or aquaculture business idea based on St Helena.
- New ideas not yet trading, or existing businesses looking to expand or diversify
- Individuals, or partners and co-founders applying jointly (one application per person)

How it works

1. Complete the application form before the closing date.
2. Shortlisted applicants pitch live, in person, to a judging panel, followed by questions
3. The panel scores each pitch and decides the winners
4. Winners sign a funding agreement, then claim back approved cost against invoices

Please note: funding is paid by reimbursement against invocies, not as an upfront cash payment. Winners must commit to keeping their business active for at least two years, to be tax registered and to take part in milestone check-ins over that period.

KEY DATES

Applications open:
Thursday 15 October 2026
Applications close:
Thursday 19 November 2026
Pitch event:
Early December 2026

How to apply

Application forms are available from the Economic Development, Trade and Investment Team. For questions or help with the application process, contact Alexandria Thomas or Michael Omrod via invest@sainthelena.gov.sh or +29022470

Connect SAINT HELENA LTD

Public Notice

Low Winter Rainfall Prompts Call for Immediate Water Conservation

The community is urged to use water sparingly as below-average rainfall and potential El Niño conditions may impact water availability during the coming summer season.

Connect Saint Helena Ltd wishes to advise all residents and businesses that winter rainfall received this year has been significantly below seasonal averages.

Current water resource assessments indicate that dam, reservoir and groundwater levels may not be sufficient should summer rainfall also fall below average.

While there is currently no restriction on water use, early conservation measures will help safeguard supplies should dry conditions persist during the summer months.

Global weather forecasts indicate the potential development of El Niño conditions, which can influence rainfall patterns in many regions. While the specific impact on St Helena remains uncertain, it is prudent to take early steps to conserve water and safeguard supplies for essential domestic, commercial, environmental and emergency use.

We are therefore asking everyone to conserve water and use it responsibly by:

- Avoiding unnecessary outdoor water use
- Repairing leaking taps, pipes and fittings
- Limiting garden watering to essential needs only
- Using water-efficient appliances and practices
- Avoiding wastage when washing vehicles, driveways and hard surfaces

Conserving water now will help protect supplies should drier-than-normal conditions continue into the summer months. We will continue to monitor the situation closely and will provide further updates as necessary.

Every drop counts.

Thank you for working with us to ensure that water resources remain available for critical needs during the months ahead. We encourage everyone to make water conservation part of their daily routine and help secure a sustainable water supply for our community.

Need more information?

Please contact Connect Enquiries on 22255 or enquiries@connectonline.co.sh. Water conservation advice and updates will be published on the Connect website www.connect.co.sh and our Facebook page.

9 October 2026

NOTICE BOARD

Consultation on our Updated Strategic Priorities and Action Plan

In light of recent economic, social and political developments on the island, the Equality & Human Rights Commission has reviewed its strategic priorities to ensure they remain relevant and responsive to current circumstances.

We are keen to receive feedback from as wide a range of stakeholders as possible, including Ministers, Councillors, SHG staff and officials, businesses, community organisations and members of the public. We would be grateful if you could share this consultation with colleagues, friends and others who may have an interest.

To receive an electronic or hard copy of our updated Strategic Plan, together with the proposed actions for the remainder of this financial year that will support delivery of our objectives please Contact the EHRC on

Tel: 22133
Email: info@ehrcsthelena.org
Or
Call at our offices at Cole's House Napoleon St.

A copy will also be available at the library

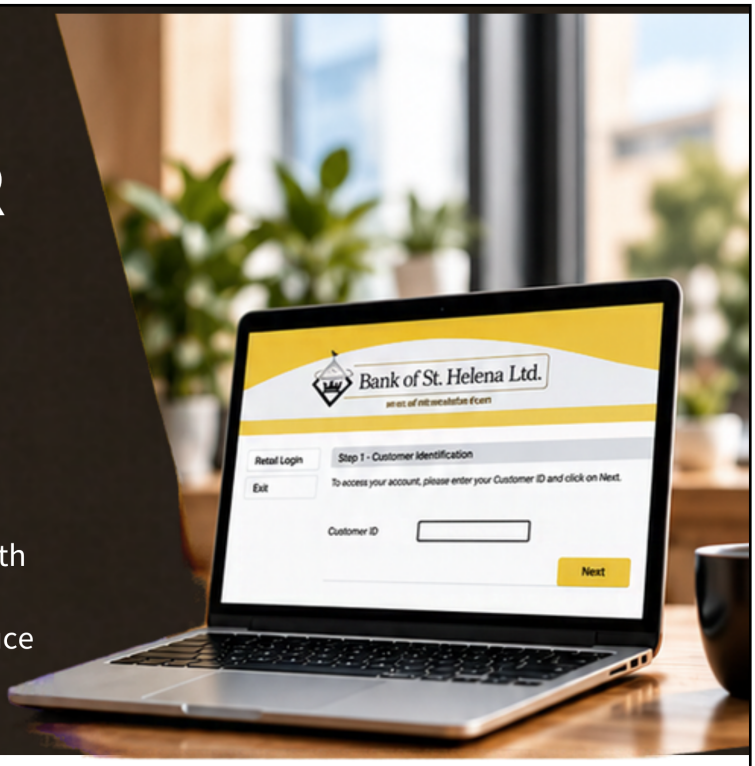
Your views are important to us and will help inform our work going forward. If you would like to comment on the updated plan or proposed actions, please contact us by **Friday 30 October**.

Thank you for taking the time to consider and contribute to this consultation.

Bank of St. Helena Ltd.
www.sainthelenabank.com

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SPORTS ARENA

WSA Rounders Report

District League gets underway at Francis Plain

WSA, Contributed

This week marked the start of our district competition, with both St Paul's and Longwood securing wins in an exciting opening round.

In the first game, St Paul's defeated Half Tree Hollow, scoring 38.5 rounders to HTH's 21. Both teams showed tremendous determination and produced a competitive and entertaining match.

HTH batted first and scored 12 rounders in their all-out innings, before finishing the game with a total of 21. Despite being one player short, every member of the team got on the scoreboard. They showed great effort both in the field and at the bat, giving their all until the very end. With players from the Incredibles, Ballzy Ladies, Thunderbats and Catchdashians joining others who had not previously played in the league, the mixed side helped create an enjoyable and competitive game.

St Paul's took to the field first and quickly found their rhythm. Strong teamwork between the bowler, wicket and first post resulted in many of the HTH players being stumped. Bringing together players from the Incredibles, Ballzy Ladies, Battitude and Catchdashians, the mixed side worked well as a team and delivered a strong all-round performance. Barbara and Sara were among the day's leading scorers, with Sara earning Lady of the Match for her impressive batting performance. Ellie Yon was named Young Lady of the Match.

In the second game, Longwood secured an 18–15 victory over Town in another closely contested match. Longwood scored 13 rounders in the first innings and added five in the second, while Town followed their first-innings score of nine with six in the second.

Town showed determination throughout the game and kept the pressure on until the final ball. Renae Coleman led the scoring with 4.5 rounders in the first innings and two in the second, earning Young Lady of the Match, while Keeley Yon was named Lady of the Match.

Longwood built a strong lead in the first innings, with contributions from across the batting order. Jordan topped their scoring with four rounders, while the team's combined effort in the field helped them protect their advantage and claim the win.

The opening week set a positive tone for the district competition, showcasing excellent teamwork, promising new talent and plenty of sporting spirit. Congratulations to all the players, and we look forward to more exciting matches as the competition continues.

ST HELENA WOMEN'S SPORTS ASSOCIATION

DISTRICT MATCH RESULTS

Week 1 — Sun, 11 Oct 2026

Jamestown		vs	Longwood	
Renae Coleman	6 ½		Charlotte Williams	½
Alena Scott	½		Justine Green	3 ½
Teryn Phillips	1		Qhi Green	½
Shania Benjamin	1 ½		Whitney Young	3
Taylor Thomas	1		Bethany Bennett	4
Rebecca Young	½		Rhiann Joshua	½
Melissa Fowler	½		Emma Bennett	2 ½
Keeley Yon	½		Tiffany Leo	1 ½
Kimberley Yon	½		Georgia Bennett	½
Hannah Beard	½		Jordana Crowie	1 ½
Rachel Braaf	1			
Penalty Score	1			
	15			18

ST HELENA WOMEN'S SPORTS ASSOCIATION

ROUNDERS DISTRICT RESULTS

Sunday, 11 October 2026

HTH 21 vs 38.5 St Pauls

LOM: Sara Thomas
YLOM: Ellie Yon

Jamestown 15 vs 18 Longwood

LOM: Keeley Yon
YLOM: Renae Coleman

ST HELENA WOMEN'S SPORTS ASSOCIATION

DISTRICT MATCH RESULTS

Week 1 — Sun, 11 Oct 2026

HTH		vs	St Pauls	
Selena Leo	2		Barbara Osborne	6
Anisa Moyce	5 ½		Alfreda Yon	½
Sinead Green	1		Jordyn S Richards	1
Katelyn Benjamin	4 ½		Sara Thomas	12 ½
April Peters	1		Danni Thomas	4
Maxina Yon	2 ½		Alayah Pidgley	2
Nicola Constantine	2 ½		Ellie Yon	4
Georgia Young	½		Shona Baldwin	4 ½
			Jaymie Lawrence	2
Penalty Score	1 ½		Penalty Score	2
	21			38.5



Golf Report

Under 60s Claim Victory in Golf Match Against Over 60s

SHGC, Contributed

St Helena Golf Club hosted its 'Over 60s versus Under 60s' match play competition on Sunday, 11 October 2026, with the Under 60s emerging victorious by 7 matches to 3.

A total of 10 matches were played in an enjoyable contest between the two age groups. The Under 60s secured seven victories against three for the Over 60s, earning bragging rights until their next encounter.

The winning Under 60s team comprised Martin Joshua, Ashton Benjamin, Damien O'Bey, Asa Bushuru, Jason Hopkins, Neil Joshua and Bramwell. The Over 60s players who secured victories for their team were Keith Buckley, Freddy Thomas and Jeffrey Stevens.

Congratulations to the Under 60s on their overall victory, and well done to all players who participated in making the competition a success.

Keith Buckley scooped all the balls in the two-ball pool after scoring the only two on the 18th

Next Competition: Annual Solomons Challenge Cup

The Club's next competition takes place on Sunday, 18 October 2026, when golfers will compete in the Annual Solomons Challenge Cup, sponsored by Solomons.

Members are encouraged to register and support this popular annual competition. Registration closes on Saturday, 17 October 2026. Players are urged to register in good time to secure their place.

Supporting Local Business: Solomons

St Helena Golf Club extends its appreciation to Solomons for sponsoring the Annual Solomons Challenge Cup and supporting golf on the island. The continued support of local businesses is vital to the development of sport and community activities on St Helena. Sponsorships such as this help make club competitions possible, encourage participation and strengthen the relationship between local enterprises and the island's sporting community.

Golfers and members of the public are encouraged to support Solomons and its businesses, recognising the important contribution that local businesses make to island life and the continued success of community sporting events.

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE – CARNIVAL 2026

The Highways Authority has approved a temporary road closure on **Saturday, 24 October, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm**.

The closure will extend from **New Bridge to the vehicle barrier adjacent to the Ex-Customs Building, Jamestown**, to help ensure the safe passage of the Carnival 2026 parade through the streets of Jamestown.

Diversion signage will be in place, and motorists are advised of the following alternative routes:

- **Traffic leaving Jamestown via Side Path Road** will be redirected up Napoleon Street.
- **Traffic leaving Jamestown via Ladder Hill Road** will be redirected via the Museum and up Shy Road.

Motorists are asked to make allowances for possible delays.

All motorists and members of the public are thanked in advance for their patience, understanding and cooperation in helping to ensure a safe and successful Carnival 2026 celebration in support of our **Cancer Support & Awareness Charity**.

SPORTS ARENA



...continued from back

overstepped outside his penalty area and handled the ball, resulting in a straight red card for denying a clear goalscoring opportunity. The referee issued the card almost reluctantly, fully aware it disrupted what had been an evenly matched and highly competitive fixture. Outfield player, Jorden Johnson, was thrust between the sticks to take over goalkeeping duties.

Chaos struck again just two minutes later when young right-back Ephrem Stroud handled the ball during a goal-line clearance. While a second red card seemed guaranteed—and expected by many—the official showed leniency, with HTH players even taking pity on the situation, issuing only a yellow card. From the ensuing penalty, HTH stand-in goalkeeper Rico Thomas made the marathon journey up-field to take the kick, finishing well past Jorden Johnson, who managed to get a hand to the ball but couldn't keep it out. The half closed at 2-0 following this frenetic two-minute window.



Jamestown refused to buckle and clawed their way back early in the second half when Jacob Duncan was adjudged to have fouled an attacker inside the box, allowing Lars Williams to convert a penalty cleanly. However, as the game wore on, Jamestown's heroic efforts began to fade under mounting fatigue and frustration.

HTH capitalised ruthlessly, displaying their immense quality as Rico Benjamin pulled strings all over the park. During a devastating five-to-ten-minute spell, the champions ran rampant, scoring goals at will. Man of the Match, Joey Thomas, added four more goals to cap off a remarkable five-goal haul, while Ryan Benjamin also chipped in during the blitz to push the scoreline to 7-1.

To his credit, makeshift keeper Jorden Johnson put in a valiant shift under impossible circumstances, pulling off a number of unexpected saves that brought light-hearted chuckles from a Jamestown side that knew the game was ultimately beyond reach.

With the win, HTH maintains a flawless record at the summit of the table. However, uncertainty surrounds the champions off the pitch, as they face a potential two-point deduction for failing to fulfil their linesman du-



ties over the past two matchdays—though no official ruling has yet been handed down by the SHFA.

The afternoon fixture proved to be an absolute spectacle as Longwood finally broke their winless streak with a hard-fought 5-3 victory over St Paul's.

St Paul's entered the match seeking to recapture form after a turbulent run following their opening-week win, which includes a late-conceded draw against Jamestown and a narrow loss to HTH.

St Paul's started brightly when Brandon Harris converted early from a corner kick to settle early nerves. Shane Stroud then squandered a golden chance shortly after to double their advantage.

That missed opportunity marked the end of St Paul's first-half ascendancy, as Longwood seized complete control of the match. Exhibiting unmatched determination, physical tackling, and relentless forward-running, Longwood looked transformed. Captain Ronan Legg was a constant menace, using his blistering pace and trademark quick feet to shred the right side of St Paul's defence, eventually racing clear to score a deserved equaliser.

Longwood's momentum snowballed as Sean-Lee Thomas and Weston Clingham sliced through the St Paul's backline with ease, netting tidy finishes to establish a commanding 3-1 lead. St Paul's centre-back Selwyn Stroud endured a nightmare half, nearly gifting Weston a second goal after a short back-pass was rescued only by a sharp reflex save from his own goalkeeper.

Down 3-1 at the interval, St Paul's situation deteriorated further right after the restart when Sean-Lee Thomas bagged his second of the afternoon to stretch Longwood's lead to 4-1.

Sensing the game slipping away, St Paul's introduced regular centre-back Korben Minto to partner Ethan Harris at the back. The substitution immediately steadied the defence, allowing St Paul's to regain a foothold in possession.

Fuelled by the tactical shift, left-back Brandon Harris marauded forward continuously, finding himself at the end of a number of chances, only to be denied by brilliant stops from Longwood shot-stopper Clayton Leo. Man of the Match, Brandon, would however eventually be rewarded for his hunger, finishing off a slick move forward to net his second of the match. Soon after, when Taylan Phillips unleashed a spectacular wonder strike to narrow the gap to 4-3, tension reached fever pitch.

As St Paul's threw everything forward in search of a dramatic late equaliser, Longwood dug deep to defend their slender lead with immense grit. In the dying moments of the match, substitute young Jude Jacobs capitalised on fresh legs, breaking clear of the exhausted St Paul's defence and finishing calmly past Jerome Peters to seal a memorable 5-3 victory at the death.

The final whistle sounded moments later, sparking jubilant celebrations as Longwood secured their first, thoroughly deserved, win of the 2026 district campaign.



SPORTS ARENA



Legg's Longwood Delivers

Half Tree Hollow run rampant, as Longwood claim big first win in start of SHFA District League Round 2

Liam Yon, SAMS

The opening weekend of Round 2 in the 2026 SHFA District League delivered unforgettable drama and a flurry of goals at Francis Plain. Defending champions Half Tree Hollow continued their relentless march toward another title with an emphatic 7-1 victory over Jamestown, while Longwood broke their duck in style by edging out St Paul's 5-3 in an eight-goal thriller.

Half Tree Hollow asserted their dominance early, opening the scoring within the first few minutes when Joey Thomas made a sharp diagonal run into the box, controlled the ball cleanly in front of the keeper, and fired a low shot on the swivel to beat Ryan Backhouse at his near post.

Despite falling behind, Jamestown remained firmly in the contest and spent long spells looking the more likely side to find the next goal, with their primary threat channelled down the left wing through Jake Letori.

The match turned dramatically on its head when Jamestown goalkeeper Ryan Backhouse was given his marching orders. Rushing off his line to cut out an HTH attack, Backhouse

continued inside...

