

Presiding Officer
The Royal Court
St Peter Port
Guernsey
GY1 2PB

21 February 2020

Dear Sir

**Letter of Comment – Requête – P.2020/8
Ensuring that a policy letter on the policy governing 5G technology is debated by the
States Assembly**

I refer to the above Requête which is scheduled for debate by the States of Deliberation on 26th February 2020.

Deputy de Saumarez and six other Members of the States of Deliberation are seeking for the States to agree to:

1. direct the Committee for Economic Development to present a policy letter to the States of Deliberation no later than the end of the current political term, detailing its recommended policy on 5G technology, including specific reference to the licence conditions and criteria;

OR, only if Proposition 1 shall have fallen,

2. direct the Committee *for* Economic Development to present a policy letter to the States of Deliberation no later than the end of 2020, detailing its recommended policy on 5G technology, including specific reference to the licence conditions and criteria.

This matter relates to a policy area which sits within the mandate of the Committee *for* Economic Development. The Policy & Resources Committee also considers that this subject matter is of particular interest to the Committee *for the* Environment & Infrastructure, the Committee *for* Home Affairs and the Committee *for* Health & Social Care. In accordance with Rule 28(2)(b) of the Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation and their Committees, the Policy & Resources Committee has consulted with these Committees, the responses to which are appended to this letter.

The Policy & Resources Committee is aware that in a Statement delivered to the Assembly at the States' Meeting on 5th February 2020, the President of the Committee *for* Economic

Development announced the intention of that Committee to bring a policy letter to the Assembly by the end of 2020 detailing a recommended policy on 5G technology, with specific reference to the licence conditions and criteria. This was reiterated in the appended letter of comment from the Committee *for* Economic Development.

The Policy & Resources Committee would agree with the assertion in the Requête that in the years since the need for appropriate policy concerning new technologies and next-generation network infrastructure was first recognised, the relevance of this matter has only increased. This has been reflected by increasing public interest in recent years, with discussion centred on various aspects relating to the introduction of 5G technology, particularly in 2019 when it was anticipated that the States would debate policy proposals in that year.

Notwithstanding the stated intention of the Committee *for* Economic Development to deliver a policy letter on this matter by the end of the year, in order that it has the direction and approval of the States to prioritise that work as appropriate, the Policy & Resources Committee recommends that Proposition 2 should be supported. The response received from the Committee *for* Health & Social Care demonstrates support for this approach.

Further, the Policy & Resources Committee would ask the Committee *for* Economic Development to note the request of the Committee *for the* Environment & Infrastructure, that during the development of a policy letter on 5G technology, consultation is undertaken with the Committee *for the* Environment & Infrastructure regarding potential environmental impacts and policy for key infrastructure, on which that Committee is mandated to advise the States.

Yours faithfully

Deputy L S Trott

Vice-President

Policy & Resources Committee

Enclosed consultation responses:

- The Committee *for* Economic Development;
- The Committee *for the* Environment & Infrastructure;
- The Committee *for* Home Affairs; and
- The Committee *for* Health & Social Care.

Deputy Gavin St Pier
President
Policy & Resources Committee
Sir Charles Frossard House
La Charroterie
St Peter Port
Guernsey
GY1 1FH

+44 (0) 1481 743835
www.gov.gg

6th February, 2020

Dear Gavin,

Requête – P.2020/8
Ensuring that a policy letter on the policy governing 5G technology is debated by the States Assembly

Thank you for your letter dated 21st January 2020, asking for comments concerning the Requête to ensure that a policy letter on the policy governing 5G technology is debated by the States Assembly.

The Committee considered this matter at its meeting on 30th January. As I announced to members of the States in my update speech on 5th February, the Committee has undertaken to ensure that a policy letter on this subject is presented to the States before the end of 2020. The policy letter will detail the Committee's recommended policy on 5G technology, including specific reference to the licence conditions and criteria.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Charles Parkinson
President



Committee *for the*
Environment & Infrastructure

Raymond Falla House
Longue Rue
St Martin
+44 (0) 1481 234567
environmentandinfrastructure@gov.gg
www.gov.gg

Deputy G St Pier
President
Policy & Resources Committee
Sir Charles Frossard House
La Charroterie
St Peter Port
GY1 1 FH

7 February 2020

Dear Deputy St Pier

Requête – P.2020/8

Ensuring that a policy letter on the policy governing 5G technology is debated by the States Assembly

Thank you for your letter dated 21 January 2020 on the above matter which the Committee considered at its meeting on 3 February 2020.

The Committee concluded that the content is not strongly linked to its mandate and it believes that this should be a political matter for the States to decide upon.

In anticipation of the possible introduction of 5G technology to Guernsey, the Office of Environmental Health and Pollution Regulation, which sits in part under the Committee *for the Environment and Infrastructure* has clarified the relevant regulatory mechanisms in place locally and reviewed published research from reputable sources to assess the likely effects of 5G on human and Environmental Health.

The Office of Environmental Health and Pollution Regulation states that there is insufficient evidence currently of adverse health or environmental effects to the use of 5G frequencies. However, this is a topic that it continues to monitor and keep under review as new evidence emerges or as guidance is updated.

The Committee is confident that strategic planning policy is sufficient to deal with any new infrastructure required such as new masts.

If a policy letter is required, the Committee requests that during its development there should be consultation with itself regarding potential environmental impacts, which will include the views of the Office of Environmental Health and Pollution Regulation, and on policy for key infrastructure such as telecommunication equipment.

Yours sincerely

Deputy B L Brehaut
President
Committee *for the Environment & Infrastructure*



Committee *for*
Home Affairs

Sir Charles Frossard House
La Charroterie
St Peter Port
Guernsey
GY1 1FH
+44 (0) 1481 717000
homeaffairs@gov.gg
www.gov.gg

Deputy G St Pier
President
Policy & Resources Committee
Sir Charles Frossard House
La Charroterie
St Peter Port
GY1 1FH

18th February 2020

Dear Deputy St Pier

Requête – P.2020/8 – Ensuring that a policy letter on the policy governing 5G technology is debated by the States Assembly

The Committee *for* Home Affairs considered your letter dated 7th February 2020 and the Requête 'Ensuring that a policy letter on the policy governing 5G technology is debated by the States Assembly' at its meeting of 17th February 2020.

The Committee, in the context of its mandate, considers that the Cyber Security Strategy, the Bailiwick Security Policy, the Telecommunications Supply Chain Security Framework and the Data Protection Law all provide appropriate mechanisms to ensure the necessary security safeguards can be in place in respect of the operation of 5G within the Bailiwick.

Yours sincerely

Deputy Mary Lowe

President

Committee *for* Home Affairs

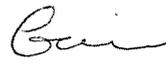


Committee for
Health & Social Care

Deputy St Pier
Policy & Resources Committee
Sir Charles Frossard House
La Charotterie
St Peter Port
GY1 1FH

Le Vauquiedor Office
Rue Mignot
St Andrew
Guernsey
GY6 8TW
+44 (1481) 725241
www.gov.gg

12 February 2020

Dear Deputy St Pier 

**Requete – Ensuring that a Policy Letter on the Policy Governing 5G
Technology is debated by the States Assembly**

Thank you for your letter of 7th February 2020 seeking the views of the Committee for Health & Social Care on the Requête submitted by Deputy de Sausmarez and six other members on the subject of 5G. Deputy McSwiggan as a signatory of the Requête recused herself from the Committee's discussions on this matter.

The Committee acknowledges that the purpose of the Requête is to require the Committee for Economic Development to return to the Assembly with a policy letter no later than the end of the current political term (or if that fails no later than the end of 2020), detailing its recommended policy on 5G technology, including specific reference to the licence conditions and criteria. The Committee understands from Deputy Parkinson's update to the Assembly on 5th February 2020 that the Committee for Economic Development intends to return to the Assembly by the end of 2020 with such recommendations, and the Committee welcomes this approach.

The Committee acknowledges that the Requête does not make specific reference to the likely effects of 5G on human health. Guernsey's Directors of Public Health and of Environmental Health & Pollution Regulation published in late 2019 a joint position statement setting out that, having reviewed published research, there is insufficient evidence of adverse health or environmental effects of electromagnetic field (EMF) radiation connected to the use of 5G frequencies. The Committee has full confidence in the integrity and rigour of this advice.

Yours sincerely

Deputy Heidi Soulsby
President
Committee for Health & Social Care