



Government of Sark

POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

A Committee of the Chief Pleas of Sark

Committee Office, La Chasse Murette, Sark, GY10 1SE

Tel: (01481) 832118 | E-mail: policy.finance@sarkgov.co.uk

Island Power - update on engagement with Chief Pleas

Island Power, following requests for meetings, were invited to meet with all Conseillers on Monday 2nd June or Tuesday 3rd June. Despite an extremely busy Committee meeting schedule, arrangements were made and for an independent professional advisor to also be present. Island Power, however, declined to attend a full meeting, rather insisting on holding briefings with small groups - limiting participation to a maximum of six Conseillers per session - and without the presence of a professional advisor. In any event, Island Power were unable to visit Sark.

A business case has been requested on multiple occasions from Island Power to allow Conseillers to review and consider their proposals. This document has yet to be provided.

In response to a query regarding the reported £2.4 million sale price of SEL, Island Power clarified to all Conseillers that 'the acquisition of SEL Group will not be a sale but a merger via incorporation of a public/private development partnership'.

Island Power have also stated in an all-Conseiller email that they will not be making a financial investment themselves in Sark. In previous meetings with Chief Pleas Committees Island Power also confirmed that they would be taking a 2% share of all revenues.

Conseiller Natalie Tighe, Deputy Chair of the Policy & Finance Committee, stated: *"Whilst we acknowledge that Island Power experienced travel difficulties on this occasion, we are disappointed that they had chosen not to attend a meeting with all Conseillers, which had been arranged specifically to facilitate an open and inclusive dialogue."*

If Island Power wishes to engage with Chief Pleas and secure the support of Conseillers for their proposals, they must meet with all Conseillers together in an open and transparent forum, with a full business case shared in advance. Any organisation seeking the support of Conseillers must be willing to engage transparently - with all members present and with sufficient information provided ahead of time.

While we remain open to constructive discussion, that engagement must take place through proper channels and in a manner that respects the collective responsibility of Chief Pleas. Island Power should engage openly and with all Conseillers as Members of Chief Pleas."

Chief Pleas remains open to discussions with SEL regarding an acquisition of assets in order to transition electricity provision on Sark into a community ownership model. Community ownership of an electricity system on Sark has been a well-publicised proposal by Chief Pleas since at least 2023. Please visit the Sark Community Power website for more information: <https://www.sarkcommunitypower.com>.

6th June 2025