



South Georgia & the South Sandwich Islands

Office of the Commissioner
Government House
Stanley
Falkland Islands

GSGSSI Stakeholders

By email

11th November 2016

Dear Stakeholder

Legislative Review Consultation – Application of Laws

I am pleased to launch this public consultation on the Government of South Georgia & the South Sandwich Islands' proposals for new legislation about the application of English law to the Territory.

This has been developed in close liaison with, and with advice and assistance from, the Falkland Islands Government the UK Government and an expert legislative drafter. In our consultation documents we have provided information on the key changes being proposed, together with some questions and answers, to help clarify what the changes mean in practice. I would encourage you to read the proposals and send any comments you may have to Mark Lewis, Legal Advisor (legal@gov.gs) by close 2nd January 2017.

Application of laws is one of the six priority pieces of legislation identified as being in need of updating through our legislative review programme:

- Income Tax
- Administration of Justice
- Immigration
- FI Courts Jurisdiction (being progressed through the FCO)
- Crimes
- Application of Laws

The legislative review programme has been discussed with stakeholders and forms part of our Strategy 2016-2020 commitments. The six priorities comprise its backbone; their revision will be critical to establishing the essential requirements for a self-governing Overseas Territory. Our intention is to consult on Crimes legislation in the new year. We have already consulted on Income Tax, Administration of Justice, Immigration, Customs and Policing and are now reviewing and finalising these proposals.

Additionally, we have identified a range of other legislation in need of updating. It is our intention to progress legislation in areas including visitor management, heritage, and fishing over the course of the next 12 months.

This is an ambitious programme to update and modernise SGSSI's statute book. Its success depends on being able to draw on your expertise to ensure we have robust and implementable proposals. Consultation documents will be available on our website and we will continue to notify you as each consultation arises. I hope you will contribute to this process and look forward to working with you.

Email: ceo@gov.gs

Tel: (500) 282i4 Facsimile: (500) 28201

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James Jansen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a blue color.

James Jansen
Chief Executive