

Access to Government Information Bill - delayed yet again!

Written by JEB

Tuesday, 06 July 2010 17:08



Positive Action Group regrets that the consultation document was not released as promised by the Chief Minister only 3 weeks ago.

During Tynwald questions:

The Hon. Member for Douglas East (Mr Robertshaw) to ask the Chief Minister:

In light of Recommendation 1 of the Report of the Select Committee on the Report of Redress for Mr and Mrs Spadoni, whether the Chief Minister will now declare a firm date when he intends to introduce an Access to Government Information Bill?

The Chief Minister (Mr Brown):

After a period of public consultation regarding the proposal for introducing such legislation, as identified in the Question, and after consideration of the views received, the Council of Ministers last month approved a Freedom of Information Bill. This is scheduled to go out for public consultation on Tuesday, 6th July, for a period of eight weeks, following which the Council of Ministers will consider the results of the consultation and agree any required changes to the draft Freedom of Information Bill, with a view to the First Reading of the Bill taking place in the House in October 2010, sir.

P A G wonders why this promise has not been honoured and hopes that a full explanation of the reasons will be given by the Chief Minister. This is not the first occasion a deadline for introduction has lapsed, but this time the difference is that the

Access to Government Information Bill - delayed yet again!

Written by JEB

Tuesday, 06 July 2010 17:08

target date was quite specific. This further delay gives the impression that the legislation is being reluctantly progressed by Government. Why?