



## Decision List BC Meeting 05/14/2024

<b>Subtitle</b>	Weekly BC Meeting
<b>Date</b>	05/14/2024
<b>Time</b>	9:00 – 12:00
<b>Location</b>	Courtroom
<b>Chair</b>	Governor Johnson
<b>Attendees</b>	Eviton Heyliger, Shamara Nicholson and Bruce Zagers
<b>Absentees</b>	Jonathan Johnson

### 1.0.0 Welcome

### 2.0.0 Minutes of last BC Meeting

*Attachment:*

BC Minutes 16.2024

*Decision:*

Approved.

### 3.0.0 BC Proposal Energy Subsidy & Updated Application form

In 2022, OLS received the following subsidies from the Ministry of SZW for energy subsidies for low-income households on Saba.

In order to determine who is eligible for the energy subsidy in the amount of \$1,300 per household per year, up until now we have used the following figures, based on the Regioplan report "*Voortgangsrapportage IJkpunt bestaanszekerheid Caribisch Nederland 2021*".

Since 2022, updated reports have been published and there is a need to update the above amounts per household to ensure more people in need can apply for the subsidy and to align with the other BES islands. We have applied 30% on top of all amounts, which is a common practice.

We propose to use scenario 1 from the Norm Social Minimum, which are the amounts of the Social Housing Scenario (+30%). Reasoning behind this is that most people applying for energy subsidy are persons that fall into this category, and that the amounts seem most appropriate based on



our experience within the Social Work department.

### **Community awareness campaign**

Once the updated figures are approved, the Community Development & Culture department is seeking your approval to start a community awareness campaign. We will communicate the updated household amounts via flyers, and possibly also publish a short video promotion. A simplified online application form will be published to facilitate the application process and fixed office hours will be held for the public to come in and apply. In addition, where needed eligible households (e.g. pensioners) will be approached personally to ensure they are aware of the subsidy and can receive the necessary support to apply.

*Decision:*

Approved.

### **3.0.5**

#### **BC proposal Saba Reach SKJ Subsidy request 2024**

The Public Entity of Saba has been subsidizing the Saba Reach Foundation on an annual basis. This BC proposal requests the approval of the subsidy for the Social Opportunity Trajectory (SKJ) Program at the Saba Reach Foundation.

In January, 2023, the SKJ Re-Play program started as a pilot with the aim of preventing early school leaving in secondary education on Saba. Currently there are 6 young people who participate in this program. The ultimate goal is to prevent early school leaving and to help eventual school dropouts receive a starting qualification.

#### **Total amount of this subsidy request is \$267,497.00**

This subsidy is funded through funding from the Ministry of OCW (see attached beschikking). The subsidy is an annual reoccurring policy from the Ministry of OCW.

From 2025 the law will change and the SKJ Act will be repealed and the policy on preventing and combating early school leaving will be regulated in the WVO 2020 and the WEB. New actions will need to be taken from this point with regards to early school leaving prevention.

The account manager for this subsidy is the department head of



Community Development & Culture with support of Policy Advisor of Culture and Education.

*Decision:*

Approved.

### **3.0.7 Extension Land Lease in Fort Gut**

The lease of the property in Fort Gut was agreed upon due to lack of space for PW & PES. The lease agreement in the meantime has now expired and needs to be renewed.

In the first lease agreement mention is made that the lease can be extended for a two (2) year period which we have now agreed upon 3 year extension and the price has been increased to \$6000 per year.

*Decision:*

Approved.

### **3.0.8 Table Top Session Military assistance procedures**

On Wednesday 29th of May, the Dutch Ministry of Defense organizes multiple Table Top sessions with partners from Sint Maarten, Statia and Saba. The aim of the table top is to inform on how the Dutch ministry of Defense is organized within the Caribbean and on the standing procedures for requesting military assistance (Militaire bijstand).

*Decision:*

Approved.

### **3.0.9 Formalities**

#### **3.1.0 Incoming Pieces / Requests (on paper)**

##### **Application Housing and Tuition Allowance (281 /2024)**

Application submitted for housing and tuition allowance for study abroad.

*Decision:*

In agreement



#### **4.0.0 Announcements**

Announcements:

1. Governor Johnson
2. Commissioner Zagers
3. Commissioner Heyliger
4. Island Secretary Streppel

#### **5.0.0 Signing**

#### **6.0.0 Closing**