

Ministry of Sports, Culture, Heritage and Youth

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The Opposition should stop politicising the Heritage issue

The Government agrees with the Opposition's view that our heritage is too important for party politics. Therefore the Opposition should stop politicising the issue and allow those who are experts in the field to get on with their job.

It is quite amazing that the Opposition should complain that the new Heritage Act is long overdue. This is an example of politicising the issue at the same time as saying that it should be above party politics. They do not seem to be aware that there has been draft legislation in the pipeline for some sixteen years. It was actually this Government that finally published a Command Paper on the subject last year. The publication of the Command Paper led to a further round of consultation with all the relevant stakeholders.

The Opposition has offered two solutions. The first is a new Heritage Act and the second a review of the Development Plan. They do not appear to have heard that the Government is already committed to both!