



Statement Addressing the Cayman Islands Tourism Association's Feedback on the Proposed Cruise Berthing Facility

The Ministry of Tourism appreciates the feedback from The Cayman Islands Tourism Association [CITA] with respect to the proposed cruise berthing facility. The position expressed by the survey respondents is noted.

In common with CITA, the Ministry of Tourism, on behalf of the Government, has maintained that the development of the cruise berthing facility would be informed by the Outline Business Case [OBC] and an Environmental Impact Assessment [EIA].

Additionally, the Ministry has carefully and methodically sought to garner as much relevant and credible information as possible, in order that Cabinet may reach an informed decision.

As noted by CITA, the Ministry has gone to great lengths to ensure that this process has been open and transparent. We have ensured that relevant documentation, including the Strategic Outline Case (SOC), the OBC and the EIA have been widely published, so that members of the public could have the opportunity to review the information and understand the development phases and potential impacts.

Garnering relevant information remains a work in progress. While this might seem to be a protracted exercise to some, it is designed to facilitate scrutiny from the financial, technical and environmental standpoints, and safeguard the project from unintended consequences in the future.

In addition to commissioning the most comprehensive EIA in the history of these Islands, the Ministry has commissioned a Benthic Habitat Survey. This will provide supplementary information regarding the habitats within the proposed dredging footprint. The final Benthic Habitat Report is expected in mid-August and the findings will be made public when it becomes available.

PriceWaterhouse Coopers (PwC) have also been requested to update the Outline Business Case with the findings obtained from the Environmental Impact Assessment.

In the interim, the Ministry of Tourism remains committed to ensuring that the views of stakeholders and the wider public continues to be an inherent part of the process.

We therefore welcome this feedback from CITA and look forward to receiving the survey feedback and documentation from their membership.

ENDS