

The Ministerial System

The Ministerial System would be a completely new Governance System for St Helena.

Legislative Council

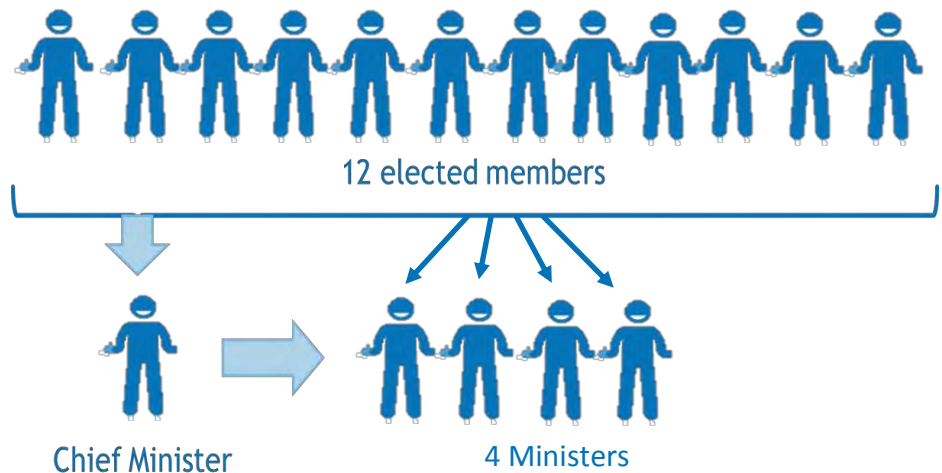
Again, 12 Elected Members will be selected to form Legislative Council following a general election held every four years. Legislative Council will comprise of the 12 Elected Members. The Speaker of the House, Deputy Speaker of the House, and the Attorney General are non-voting members. There will be no Chief Secretary or Financial Secretary in Legislative Council.



Chief Minister and Ministers

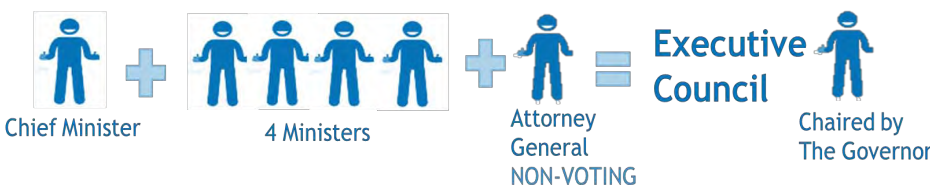
The 12 Elected Members of Legislative Council will elect a Chief Minister from among them.

The Chief Minister would then select four Elected Members from Legislative Council to serve as Ministers.



Executive Council

In this system, the Chief Minister and their four Ministers will form ExCo. ExCo will also comprise of the Attorney General, as a non-voting official. The Governor would chair any meeting of ExCo. The Chief Secretary and Financial Secretary could be invited to ExCo when needed or on a fixed basis.



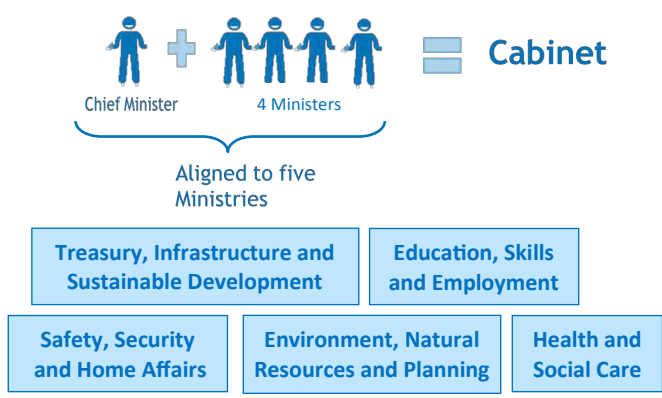
Ministries

The Chief Minister and their four Ministers will set out their vision and policies for their four year term of office subject to financial aid constraints. There will then be five Ministries, one for each Minister if the Chief Minister himself has one. These Ministries will be:

- Education, Skills and Employment
- Health and Social Care
- Treasury, Infrastructure and Sustainable Development
- Safety, Security and Home Affairs
- Environment, Natural Resources and Planning

The Chief Minister will have oversight for the performance of Ministers and their Ministries. The Chief Minister and Ministers can hold Cabinet meetings, as required, to decide advice to be given to the Governor at meetings of ExCo.

Ministers will have direct responsibility and accountability for all policies and services delivered by their Ministry. They will also have to justify to Legislative Council the effective use of public funds spent in their Ministry.



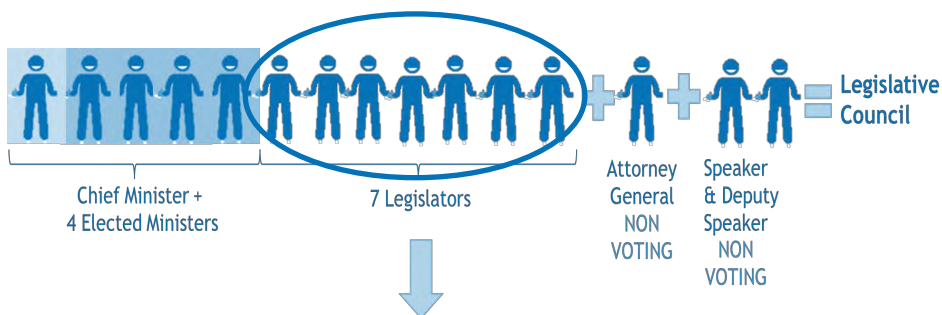
Legislators

The remaining seven Elected Members, known as Legislators (or backbenchers), will be allocated a constituency and will be the first point of call for constituents in that area.

A large part of the Legislators' remit would be to scrutinise the performance and decision making by the Ministers to ensure the effective use of public funds. Two scrutiny committees would be set up and the Legislators would be members of these committees.

Alongside the two new scrutiny committees, three of the Legislators will also sit on the PAC, which will continue to exist as in the current system.

(see page 14 to find out more about the PAC)



The 7 Legislators will:

- Be assigned a constituency to represent
- Scrutinise and hold Ministers accountable for their decisions

Other Changes

Ministers will be co-located to work from an office in their corresponding Ministry. The Director and other staff would be required to develop a productive working relationship with the Minister and meet frequently to discuss policies and legislation being developed, and advise on the implementation of activities.

A regular forum will be held where Legislators will be able to question the Chief Minister and Ministers on their decision making. For example, there could be sessions of Chief Minister Questions similar to Prime Ministers Questions in the UK.

Unlike in the Current Government System and Revised Committee System, there will not be any Council Committees in a Ministerial System.