

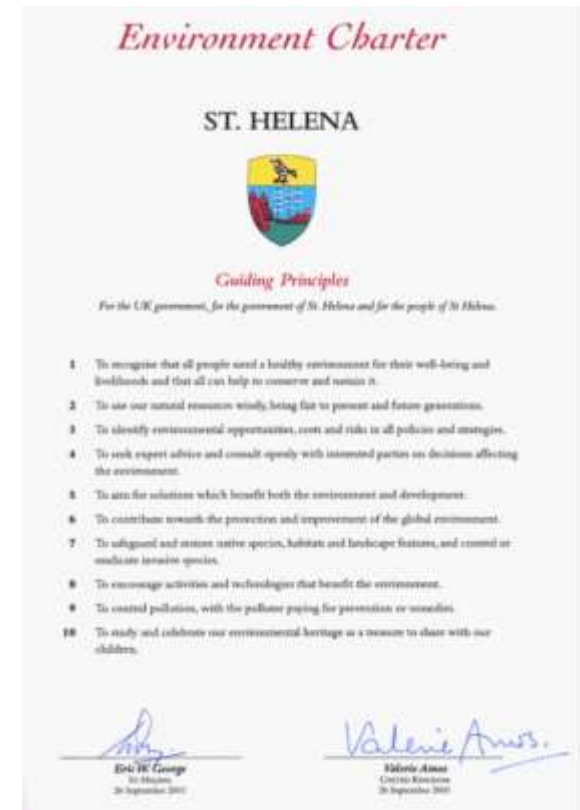
# Environment Action Planning on St Helena

## Building Resilience into Ecosystems



# The Past

## Environmental charter 10 guiding principles



# Environmental Management

- Conservation has been central to our work;
- We are monitoring, measuring, investigating and curating the islands biodiversity;
- We need to understand the environment that our biodiversity inhabits in order to understand, protect and restore our habitats.

Photo: Ben Sansom

# Air Quality

- Dust
- Vehicles
- Industrial emissions



- Aircraft
- Shipping



# Land Quality

- Slope stability
- Slope morphology
- Pesticides
- Fertilizers
- Contaminated land



Photo: Ben Sansom

- Geology
- Soil chemistry
- Soil depth



Photo: Ben Sansom

# Water

- Freshwater quality
- Sea water quality



- Process water and sewage discharges
- Climate change
- Water demand



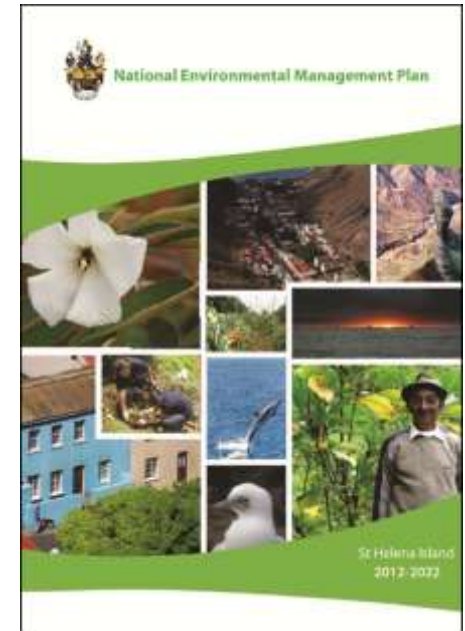
# How Important is the Environment today?

- Central to economic reform
- The third pillar of the islands Sustainable Development Plan
- Underpinned by the National Environment Management Plan and Environmental Protection Ordinance (2014)



# The Present

- National environmental management plan (NEMP) launched October 2012
- 10 main objectives
- Reviewed on a regular basis





# Environmental Protection Ordinance (EPO)

- Draws together all previous environmental legislation
- Grants powers for policing environmental incidents
- Ready in 2014

# The Challenge - Finance

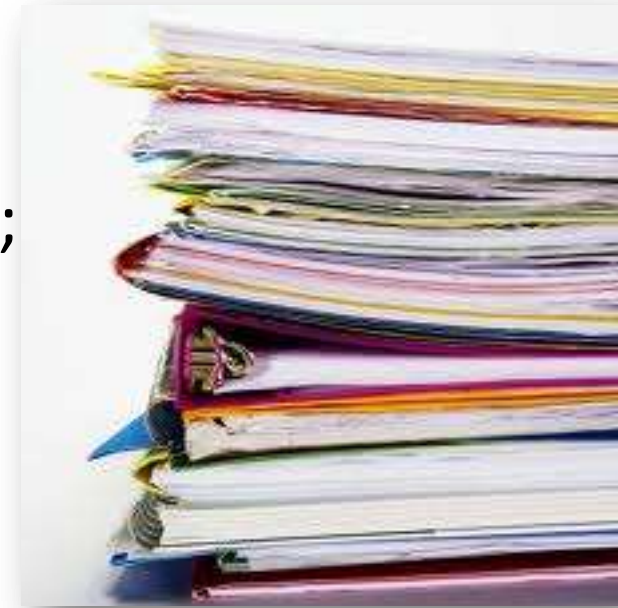
- 0.85% of the annual budget is directed towards environmental management
- EMD have to chase other sources of funding – additional commitments, resources and time



# The Challenge

## Staff vs Deliverables (1)

- 65 NEMP deliverables in a 3 year programme;
- 26 staff;
- 20 staff – ecology (terrestrial/marine);
- 6 staff – environmental science  
(air quality, acoustics, archaeology, EIA, archeology, hydrogeology, contaminated land, climate change etc)



# The Challenge

## Staff vs Deliverables (2)

- 35 EMD led NEMP deliverables
- 69% environmental science, 21% ecology
- 23% of the staff are trying to deliver 69% of the NEMP targets
- Imbalance between ecology and other environmental sciences



# Terrestrial section

Target:

14 National Conservation  
Areas to have development  
plans by March 2015 and 6  
Management plans in place





- Problems faced:  
participation
- What has worked:  
using community centres,  
meet landowners and  
specific stakeholders

# Marine section

Target:  
Create and implement  
a marine management  
plan by March 2015



- Problems faced: initial mind set of stakeholders and public
- What has worked: recognise key stakeholders getting their input from the concept stages policy development.





# Environmental risk management section

Target:  
Create the solid waste  
management strategy and  
implement accompanying  
plan by December 2013



Photo: Mike Durnford



Photo: Mike Durnford

- Problems faced: lack of professional and qualified engineers on island to provide expert opinion and advice for specialist work
- What has worked: up-skilling across SHG and a 'common sense' approach



# The Future

- Eco-tourism for St Helena



Photo: Marine Section



Photo: David Price