



# THE ANGUILLA HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

## QUESTION PAPER FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE FIRST SESSION THE ELEVENTH ANGUILLA HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 at 10:00AM

### QUESTION 1

*The Honourable Member for Island Harbour to put the following question to the Honourable Member for Valley South, the Chief Minister:*

- (a) Whether his government will seek to bring Anguilla legislation into line with the UK Bribery Act 2010 during its current elected term of office;
- (b) In the meantime, whether it is the policy and practice of his government to follow the standards called for by the UK Bribery Act;
- (c) Whether his government has in place safeguards against bribery, such as requiring at least a second pair of demonstrably independent eyes and ears in all relevant third party negotiations;
- (d) Whether such policy is rigorously applied by himself, his ministers and all of the Government's civil servants in connection with third party negotiations.

**Question**

- (a) Whether his Government will seek to bring Anguilla legislation into line with the UK Bribery Act 2010 during its current elected term of office.

**Answer**

The present UK Bribery Act replaces and consolidates a number of Acts in the UK dealing with corrupt practices of public officials and concerns about unethical practices by those in public office. The process began in 1995 with the Nolan Committee's Report on Standards in Public Life. The process culminated in the Law Commission issuing a consultative paper in 2007 and a final report in 2008. The bill was eventually assented to on April 8, 2010. Obviously, the Act was in response to concerns about the situation in the UK. By virtue of her question the Member for Island Harbour seems to imply that similar conditions exist in Anguilla that would require the urgent enactment of such legislation. I concede that there exists in Anguilla some statute law on bribery. The Government of Anguilla has in excess of four years to the end of its term of office and would be prepared to add this to its legislative agenda for prioritization. The Honourable Member would appreciate that there are many other critical pieces of legislation in the drafting and consultative phase, including social protection legislation, that may take precedence at this time.

**Question**

- (b) In the meantime, whether it is the policy and practice of his government to follow the standards called for by the UK Bribery Act.

**Answer**

Yes! As far as those standards are applicable <sup>to</sup> the different circumstances of our colonial status. <sub>^</sub>

**Question**

- (c) Whether the Government has in place safeguards against bribery, such as requesting at least a second pair of demonstrably independent eyes and ears in all relevant third party negotiations.

**Answer**

I do not understand the question. You need to explain what you mean! If it means bringing outside parties into Government negotiations the answer is: Only when appropriate and if such creatures are to be found in a small community.

**Question**

- (d) Whether such policy is rigorously applied by himself, his ministers and all Government's civil servants in connection with third party negotiations.

**Answer**

My Government practices the highest level of integrity in Office. It is unfair for you to ask me to speak for all civil servants. Again with regards the standards referred to you regarding third party negotiations the preceding response also applies.