



Ministerial Statement
By
The Hon. Michael Dunkley, JP, MP,
Speaker for the Minister of Home Affairs
In the House of Assembly
Friday, 22 November, 2013

Lease, Conveyance and Disposition of Municipal Land

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to provide an update on the Lease, Conveyance and Disposition of Land provision in the Municipalities Amendment Act 2013 that came into operation on the 15th October, 2013.

Mr. Speaker, you will recall that section 14(1) of the Act provides that any agreement entered into by a Corporation on or after 1 January 2012 and before the coming into operation of the section on 15 October 2013, must be submitted to the Minister responsible for Municipalities.

Mr. Speaker, those leases and agreement that the Corporations were required to submit included those for: (a) the sale of land which is the property of the Corporation; or (b) a lease, conveyance or other disposition of any interest in land which is the property of the Corporation, being a lease, disposition or conveyance expressed to be for a term exceeding twenty-one years or for terms renewable exceeding in the aggregate twenty-one years. Any such lease, and any related

agreement, was required to be submitted to the Minister responsible for Municipalities within 14 days after 15th October 2013.

Mr. Speaker, the Corporation of Hamilton has submitted to the Minister responsible for Municipalities, pursuant to section 14(1), six leases and agreements that will be tabled in this Honourable House today.

Mr. Speaker, The Corporation of St. George's has informed the Minister that it has not entered into any such agreements as are referred to in section 14(1) of the Act.

Mr. Speaker, in accordance with section 14(1) of the Act, the leases and agreements as submitted, that will be tabled today, are listed in Notice (GN 938/2013) which was published in the Official Gazette last Friday, inviting persons who have an interest in any such agreement that has not yet been submitted by the Corporations to do so by the 29th November, 2013.

Mr. Speaker, in accordance with section 14(1) of the Act, any such agreement that is not listed in the Notice and that is not submitted to the Minister by 29th November, 2013 shall be void ab initio.

Mr. Speaker, such provisions aim to ensure that land under the stewardship of the municipalities is dealt with in accordance with the governance measures enshrined in legislation.

Thank You Mr. Speaker.