

GREEN LIGHT FOR TOURISM AUTHORITY

Approval has been given for the establishment of the Tobago Tourism Authority. Secretary of Tourism, Culture and Transportation Nadine Stewart-Phillips made the announcement yesterday (February 16) at the weekly post-Executive Council media briefing. The Tourism Secretary said her Division is working towards implementing the

new body, which will focus on promoting Destination Tobago. Stewart-Phillips said the island's tourism must be sustainable to compete in the world market. The Authority will help enhance Tobago's tourism product. "A Tobago Tourism Authority would be free from bureaucratic systems and processes that currently plague our Division, resulting in serious

inefficiencies and ineffectiveness," she explained. The Secretary said the Tourism Authority should increase visitor arrivals and attract more investments in Tobago. In the short term, the Division is aiming for an increase in visitor arrivals, she said, while the "more specific objective is focused on driving new profitable investments to Tobago to effect an increase in dollar spent per capita".



POLICE VISIT: Secretary of Infrastructure, Quarries and the Environment Kwesi Des Vignes welcomes acting Senior Superintendent Joanne Archie to the Division ahead of a meeting to talk about noise pollution in Tobago.

‘WE ALL MUST HELP KEEP TOBAGO CLEAN’

Tobago's brand is "Clean, Green, Safe and Serene", but not all Tobagonians are helping to keep the island that way.

Secretary of Infrastructure, Quarries and the Environment, Kwesi Des Vignes, said Scarborough is often left dirty on weekends, which can affect the island's image, especially when visitors come around.

"I was appalled a couple weekends ago when I saw the conditions of Scarborough," Des Vignes said during yesterday's (February 16) post-Executive Council media briefing, adding that Tobagonians are the ones making the mess.

The Secretary said his Division will focus on keeping the island clean, and urged Tobagonians to help do the same.

"You may have noticed that Scarborough was clean this weekend but we cannot absolve ourselves of the responsibility. We are the ones throwing bottles and KFC boxes on the side of the road."

Des Vignes asked residents to encourage others not to litter, adding that sanitation workers are not the only one responsible for keeping our surroundings clean.

TOBAGO TACKLING NOISE POLLUTION

Police patrols started on February 9 in Crown Point, with a new task force in operation.

They are seeking to curb a perennial problem in that community, and a number other areas... noise pollution. The task force combines the manpower of the Tobago Division of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service and the support of the Division of Infrastructure, Quarries

and the Environment. The patrols will continue over the next two months. Infrastructure Secretary Kwesi Des Vignes said Tobagonians and visitors have the right to enjoy the Tobago space. He believes Tobago must become firmer in guiding environmental policy and enforcing laws. Des Vignes said this will make Tobago a more enjoyable place for everyone.