

PLP Candidates Point Of View On Long Island

Published On: Wednesday, August 03, 2011

LONG Island has been neglected by the government for far too long, Progressive Liberal Party candidate Alex Storr said.

The political newcomer said that a widespread lack of running water and a rundown airport at Deadman's Cay are two points of concern for the local population.

"The water is especially a sore point with the residents. It's one of the only issues that affects everyone. It's an essential service so cost should not be a factor - every single person deserves fresh clean water," Mr. Storr told The Tribune yesterday.

"The Deadman's Cay Airport is in a sore state not fitting for an airport. It hasn't been painted in a number of years. . . most of the time passengers have to wait outside because there's not enough space to hold people."

At the Free National Movement's Long Island Constituency Association banquet last week, Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham told those attending some of their woes will be addressed by his administration.

Mr. Ingraham singled out the Deadman's Cay airport and the water supply problems for attention, but Mr. Storr said this is a little too late.

"I think the fact that Long Island has been left behind in this regard is a really sad case and it's really a down point of the FNM administration.

"It's not good enough to say that the project is an expensive one, and it's not enough to rush to do something before the election," he said.

According to Mr. Storr, Deadman's Cay is the only settlement on Long Island with running water while other areas must rely on water deliveries or private well systems.

"Not everyone can afford to put in a pump system or a well system," he said. "In Salt Pond, because there are so many hills and it's close to the salt water it is not feasible for them to put in private wells."

State Minister for the Environment Phenton Neymour told The Tribune that government is working to organise funding for an expansive water project to benefit the entire island.

"We were seeking funding for the water project down there.

"Long Island, like many of our Family Islands, has some distribution systems in some of its major settlements but there are settlements that still require distribution mains like Salt Pond and Clarence Town.

"We began redevelopment of the Family Islands many years ago putting in water mains with road works. There is a lot more work to be done - Long Island is one of them," he said.