

MEMORANDUM TO CABINET BY THE HON. MINISTER OF PUBLIC BUILDING
AND WORKS

Application to develop a plot of land at Mellieha

An application for planning permission has been filed in respect of a plot of land having an area of around 114 tumoli, fronting in Mellieha Bay and rising up the hill almost to the rock escarpment of Ix-Xaghra tal-Qortin. This land falls outside any existing scheme.

The project provides for a mixed development including a hotel, a shopping arcade, a concert and dance hall, a holiday village, villas and flats.

This project has been studied by the Town Planning Board who consider that further building round Mellieha Bay should be stopped until a plan of development for the whole bay has been approved. But as the project includes a hotel and as a hotel accommodation is still urgently required the Board are not greatly against the erection of the hotel only, provided this is completely re-planned and is sited well away from the coastline.

The coastline of Malta is very short and that part of it which is usable is shorter still. Portions of coastline have already been irrevocably lost to the Public through long term leases; what remains must be safeguarded to the utmost.

Hon. Ministers are requested to consider whether the construction of a hotel should be allowed on this site now or whether approval or otherwise of the project should await the approval of the Master Plan.

25th October, 1967.