

Isle of Man Chamber of Commerce 1st Floor, Hillary House Prospect Hill, Douglas IM1 1EQ

Friday 21st November 2025

Ref: Prioritisation of the Electronic Transactions (Amendment) Bill

Dear Ministers,

We recognise this is a busy period as your Administration seeks to maximise the value delivered prior to the General Election. Chamber understands there are many legislative priorities competing for priority. We wish to make the case for prioritising the Electronic Transactions (Amendment) Bill. This Bill has been in development for 5 years and is currently in your legislative programme in the section <u>'In development and planned for the Session: 2024-2025'</u>

The current Electronic Transactions Act was enacted in 2000 and drafted in the 1990s. A great deal has happened since then to transform the global economy such that the digital economy including the use of electronic signatures and digital identity is essential to the prosperity and security of all jurisdictions. In recent years other jurisdictions including the UK and EU have enacted much legislation which gives greater legal certainty and cybersecurity in the use of these technologies. The Isle of Man has not kept pace with such changes and, as a result, we are exposed to risks and uncertainty in their use in certain cases. For example, some business has been lost to the Island due to legal advice that the use of electronic signatures was legally unclear in certain uses. Also, some cases where electronic signatures have been used could be open to legal challenge which could generate wider concerns and impact our economy.

It is vital the Isle of Man modernises its framework in order to give citizens, businesses and their customers the access to products and services with legal certainty and cybersecurity. It can help our businesses to promote and sell their services globally. Updating this legislation can also illustrate the Isle of Man's commitment to maintaining high standards that reflect the modern digitally-dependent economy to MONEYVAL and FATF.



Chamber would be most grateful if you could confirm that the Electronic Transactions (Amendment) Bill remains a priority for your Administration and will be brought before Tynwald in 2026 with a view to passing through the Branches prior to the General Election. Thank you for your attention on this important matter.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca George

Chief Executive

Isle of Man Chamber of Commerce