

STATES OF JERSEY



Jersey

DRAFT PUBLIC FINANCES (AMENDMENT OF LAW) (JERSEY) REGULATIONS 202- (P.28/2020) AMENDMENT

**Lodged au Greffe on 23rd March 2020
by the Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel**

STATES GREFFE

DRAFT PUBLIC FINANCES (AMENDMENT OF LAW) (JERSEY)
REGULATIONS 202- (P.28/2020) AMENDMENT

PAGE 7, REGULATION 1 –

In Regulation 1, in sub-paragraph (b) for the inserted paragraph (10) substitute –

“(10) Paragraphs (6) to (9) expire on 30th September 2020.

(11) Despite paragraph (10), where the Minister has obtained financing, lent money or provided guarantees or indemnities under Articles 26 to 28 while Article 24(8) applied, the financing, lending or provision of guarantees or indemnities remain valid and are not included in any monetary limits set out in Articles 26 to 28 as those Articles apply after the expiry of the modifications made by Article 24(9)(c) to (e).”.

CORPORATE SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL

REPORT

This amendment has been lodged to ensure that this amending legislation ([P.28/2020](#)) is aligned with the other responses made by the Government of Jersey to the Covid-19 crisis.

It is not the Panel's wish to delay or obstruct urgent changes required for this crisis, and we believe that this amendment will ensure that the Minister for Treasury and Resources is able to respond with the necessary immediacy.

The Panel agrees that by increasing financial limitations, it will ensure that the Minister will have the opportunity to respond appropriately to the current threat to the financial wellbeing of Islanders posed by Covid-19. Furthermore, by removing these limits, the Government will be able to tailor its departmental responses to fit the crisis at hand, rather than be bound by a restrictive financial cap.

The economic risk that Covid-19 poses to the Island is unique, and the Minister should not implement permanent changes at this time of crisis. Instead, changes should focus solely on responding to this risk and return to previous spending limits once this crisis has cleared. The Minister may then implement further changes when greater analysis of the correct measures and limits can be undertaken.

Finally, the Panel would like to request that the Minister ensures that Scrutiny and the States Assembly are kept informed of her work throughout this crisis.

Financial and manpower implications

The cost of this amendment is unknown.