# **STATES OF JERSEY**



# STATES OF JERSEY LAW 2005: DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS – MINISTER FOR TREASURY AND RESOURCES

Presented to the States on 26th July 2024 by the the Minister for Treasury and Resources

### **STATES GREFFE**

2024 R.125

#### **REPORT**

On 26th July 2024, the Minister for Treasury and Resources made a Ministerial Decision delegating certain of her functions under Articles 28, 30 and 30A of the <u>States of Jersey Law 2005</u> (see Decision reference MD-TR-2024-571, available at <u>www.gov.je</u>).

Article 28 of the States of Jersey Law 2005 permits a Minister to delegate, wholly or partly, functions to an Assistant Minister or an officer.

In addition to the specific delegations to officers below the Minister has delegated certain powers to her Assistant Ministers.

### 1 Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2019 delegations to officers

### 1.1 Retention of Income

Legislation:	Article 21 – Power to allocate excess income
	(1) This Article applies if –
	(a) an approved government plan includes, under
	Article 9(8), the estimated income that will
	be earned by, or be attributable to, a States
	body or by an area of operation of a States
	body during the first financial year covered
	by the plan; and
	(b) income in excess of that estimate is earned by,
	or attributable to, the States body or area of
	operation during that financial year.
	(2) Despite the approved government plan, the
	Minister may direct that the excess income referred to
	in paragraph (1)(b) be allocated to a head of
	expenditure set out in the plan.
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Delegate:	Treasurer of the States, or in their absence, another
	person as nominated by the Treasurer (excluding the
	PAO), to approve -
	• additional income in excess of increased
	expenditure (i.e. additional surplus income)
	required to generate that income but the excess
	income is more than 10% (up to a maximum of
	£100,000 for all States funded bodies) of the
	estimated income notified to the States for that
	particular service area – this additional income
	should not be used to fund recurring expenditure
	for which no future funding is secured.
Function delegated and	The Minister agreed that States funded bodies be
scope of delegation:	allowed to retain and use additional income in
scope of delegation.	instances where -
	a) any such income and associated additional
	expenditure match; and
	b) the additional income is in excess of
	increased expenditure (i.e. additional surplus

income) required to generate that income but the excess income is not more than 10% (up to a maximum of £100,000 for all States funded bodies) of the estimated income notified to the States for that particular service area – this additional income should not be used to fund recurring expenditure for which no future funding is secured.

with any approval above these levels delegated to the Treasurer of the States as detailed above.

### 1.2 Financing

Legislation:	Article 26 - the Minister may arrange for:
Legislation.	a bank overdraft or bank overdraft facility; and
	other minor financing.
Delegate:	Treasurer of the States to agree short-term bank overdrafts /overdraft facilities up to £50 million.
	Treasurer of the States to agree short-term drawdowns from the Revolving Credit Facility up to £50 million as additional overdraft.
	The Government Plan 2024-2027 included a provision which allowed use of the Revolving Credit Facility (RCF) to minimise costs relating to short-term borrowing.
	The total delegated authority equals up to £100m of overdraft facilities.
	Authority is delegated to the Treasurer of the States to agree minor borrowing up to £100,000 in any one financial year (up to a maximum of £500,000), with no transaction to exceed £10,000 and repayment periods of 5 years or less.
	All borrowing must be reported in the half yearly financial update presented to the States by the Minister.
Function delegated and scope of delegation:	This Article of the Law empowers the Minister to arrange for a bank overdraft (or bank overdraft facility) and to approve other minor borrowing up to specific total and annual limits set in the Law.

### 1.3 Lending

Legislation:	Article 27 - the Minister may lend in the name of the
	States from the Consolidated Fund.

Delegate:	(a) Treasurer of the States to agree short-term lending.
	Authority is delegated to the Treasurer of the States to agree minor lending up to £100,000 in any one financial year (up to a maximum of £500,000), with no loan to exceed £10,000 and with a maximum loan repayment period of 5 years.
	All loans must be reported in the half yearly financial update presented to the States by the Minister.
Function delegated and scope of delegation:	This paragraph of the Law empowers the Minister to grant loans up to specific total and annual limits set in the Law.

# 1.4 Power to transfer major projects amounts to the following year

Legislation:	Article 20– the Minister has the authority to transfer unspent amounts allocated for major project to the following year.
Delegate:	The Treasurer of the States or in their absence another officer nominated by the Treasurer of the States (excluding the PAO) to agree all noncontentious requests to transfer unspent funds allocated to a head of expenditure for a major project to the same major project in the following financial
Function delegated and scope of delegation:	This paragraph allows the Minister to direct that an unspent amount appropriated to a head of expenditure for a major project in one financial year is available to spend on the same major project in the following financial year.

# **1.5 Public Finances Manual**

Legislation:	Article 31 – Public Finances Manual.
Delegate:	Treasurer of the States to issue minor amendments to the Public Finances Manual as he considers necessary. (This authority shall not extend to those sections of the Manual which propose the delegation of responsibility from the Minister to an officer without the Minister having already agreed those delegations). Amendments delegated will include those necessary to clarify requirements; those to ensure that the Manual is consistent with other published legislation, policies and procedures; and those which are required as part of an emergency situation as defined in Article 24 of the Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2019. Any significant changes to financial management and

	control policy must be approved directly by the Minister.
	The Manual and all amendments must be issued to the States' Public Accounts Committee and made publicly available.
Function delegated and scope of delegation:	The Minister has responsibility for the issuance and amendment of the Public Finances Manual. (The Law enables the Minister to delegate the above functions to the Treasurer).

# **1.6 Insurance Fund**

Legislation:	Article 60 – allows the continuation of the Insurance Fund.
Delegate:	Treasurer of the States, or in their absence, another officer nominated by the Treasurer (other than the PAO) to permit persons or bodies that appear to be connected with the States to participate in the States' mutual insurance arrangement on such terms and conditions as agreed.
Function delegated and scope of delegation:	This Article enables the Minister to determine which persons or bodies with States' connections, can participate in the States mutual insurance arrangements and what terms and conditions should apply to them.

# 2 Other delegations to officers

# **2.1 States Charges**

States decision:	Anti-Inflation Strategy (P125/2000).
Delegate:	Treasurer of the States, or in their absence, another person as nominated by the Treasurer (excluding the PAO) to agree non-contentious fee/charge increases which do not require subsequent States approval; or in instances where fees are being increased in line with the "User Pays" principle.
	The Treasurer of the States will be able to give "blanket" approval to groups of charges in a particular year, or a single charge over a period of a number of years.
	The Minister agreed that approval for increases which are in line with statute or with a formula which has already received States or their approval do not require further approval.

Function delegated and	The States in adopting the Anti-Inflation Strategy
scope of delegation:	agreed that increases in States charges should be
	limited to a maximum of 2.5 per cent a year, with
	any exceptions, in extremely compelling cases only,
	to be subject to prior approval by the Finance and
	Economics Committee (now the Minister for
	Treasury and Resources).

# 2.2 Coin designs

Legislation:	Decimal Currency (Jersey) Law 1971 - Article 3 -
	Coinage of the new currency.
Delegate:	The Minister delegated approval of the annual
	programme of commemorative currency designs and
	the issue of individual coins within this programme
	to the Treasurer of the States.
Function delegated and	This delegation enables the Treasurer of the States to
scope of delegation:	approve the annual programme of commemorative
	currency designs and to approve individual
	commemorative currency designs as and when they
	are produced.

# 2.3 Non-Contentious States Staffing increases

States decision:	Regulation of Public Sector Employees (P67/1999).
Delegate:	Treasurer of the States, or in their absence, another person as nominated by the Treasurer of the States (excluding the PAO) for agreeing non-contentious increases to States staff levels.
Function delegated and scope of delegation:	This proposition charges the Minister for Treasury and Resources to regulate the number of persons that may be employed by the States of Jersey in any area of the States administration, excluding those States' departments that report to the States trading operations, in accordance with the principles contained within the Regulation of Undertakings legislation and the policy statement issued by the then Finance and Economics Committee in respect of the
	application of the Regulation of Undertakings to the private sector, effective from 10th November 1998.

# **2.4 Housing Deposit Loans**

Legislation:	Starter Home Deposit Loan Scheme (P.131/2012) and associated Scheme Rules
Delegate:	Treasurer of the States, or in their absence, another person as nominated by the Treasurer of the States (excluding the PAO) to consent to property sales, approve investment returns (subsidies at market rates) on property sales and approve the waiving or deferral of part or all of an investment return in certain

	circumstances (e.g. Separation of a couple, deferred sale of the property).
Function delegated and scope of delegation:	As a result of loans being made at a 0% interest rate a subsidy is recoverable if the property is sold at a profit before the term of the mortgage.
	Authority is delegated to the Treasurer of the States to agree the level of investment return (subsidy at market rates) in accordance with pre-determined calculation criteria as detailed in the Scheme Rules.
	Authority is delegated to the Treasurer of the States to agree to waiving or deferring the investment return in
	part or in full in exceptional circumstances, e.g. prolonged ill health, death or divorce.

### 2.5 Administering Jersey's international taxation agreements

Administering Jersey's	Administering Jersey's international taxation
international taxation	agreements such as Jersey's Double Taxation
agreements:	Agreements, Tax Information Exchange
	Agreements, the European Union (EU) Savings
	Directive and all of Jersey's other international
	taxation agreements that provide for a mutual
	agreement procedure and/or the exchange of
	information on behalf of the Minister for Treasury
	and Resources.
Delegate:	The Minister delegates authority to any officer acting
	as Comptroller of Revenue and to any person
	authorised by the Comptroller under Article 3(5) of
	the Revenue Administration Law to act for and on
	behalf of the Treasury and Resources Minister as
	Competent Authority for the purposes of Jersey's
	Double Taxation Agreements, Tax Information
	Exchange Agreements, the EU Savings Directive and
	all of Jersey's other international taxation agreements
	that provide for a mutual agreement procedure and/or
	the exchange of information.

# **2.6** Expenditure of Treasury and Exchequer department

Legislation	States of Jersey Law 2005: Article 26(1)(c)
Delegate:	The Minister delegates authority to the Treasurer of
g	the States to enter into agreements up to the amounts approved by the States Assembly for the Treasury and
	Exchequer Department.
Functions delegated:	The power to –  (i) enter into agreements on behalf of the Minister, including but not limited to accepting tenders, placing and accepting orders, appointing consultants,

	agreeing and signing formal contracts and other forms of engagement; (ii) acquire, hold and dispose of movable property; and (iii) do anything reasonably necessary or expedient for or incidental to any of the matters delegated above.
Limit on scope of delegation:	Unlimited, but subject in all instances to the specific obligations held as Accountable Officer; as well as
delegation:	the general responsibilities of the postholder as a senior official, including ensuring the Minister is duly informed, sufficiently in advance to provide direction, on contentious matters, with reference to the size of any contract (this should include contracts over £1 million) and/or the extent of its direct impact on Islanders. The delegation includes the ability of the Treasurer of the States to schedule to their subordinate managers approval powers within their own delegation limits.  To note, in all instances Accountable Officers retain statutory responsibilities by virtue of their role, including ensuring financial propriety and regularity, and that resources are used economically, efficiently and effectively.

### **2.7 Data Protection and Freedom of Information**

Legislation	States of Jersey Law 2005: Article 26(1)(c)(iii) and
	(vi)
Delegate:	The Minister delegates all powers in relation to the management of data collected or held by Government under the Data Protection (Jersey) Law 2018, Freedom of Information (Jersey) Law 2015 and Public Records (Jersey) Law 2002, in the areas for which the Minister is responsible, to the Treasurer of the States.
Functions delegated:	All powers in relation to the management of data collected or held by Government under the Data Protection (Jersey) Law 2018, Freedom of Information (Jersey) Law 2015 and Public Records (Jersey) Law 2002, in the areas for which the Minister is responsible.
Limit on scope of	Unlimited, but subject in all instances to the general
delegation:	responsibilities of the postholder as a senior official,
	including ensuring the Minister is kept generally
	informed, with specific reference to the perceived public interest and/or the extent of direct impact on
	Islanders. The delegation includes the ability of the
	Treasurer of the States to schedule to their
	subordinate managers tasks in relation to the
	management of data.

# 2.8 Insurance

Legislation	Insurance Fund Purpose, Terms and Circumstances (R.111/2019)
Delegate:	The Minister delegates authority to permit payments to be made from the Insurance Fund to the Treasurer of the States or another person as nominated by the Treasurer of the States.
<b>Functions delegated:</b>	All use of the Insurance Fund to settle claims against the States.
Limit on scope of delegation:	Unlimited. The Treasurer may set out further delegations to other officers as appropriate.