



States Greffe: Scrutiny

Deputy Susie Pinel
Minister for Treasury and Resources
19-21 Broad Street
St Helier
JE2 3RR

10th April 2019

Dear Minister

Draft Public Finances (Jersey) Law

I am writing to update you on the progress of the Corporate Services Panel's review of the draft Public Finances (Jersey) Law. We are in the process of preparing our report to the Assembly in advance of the debate of the principles of the draft law on 30th April.

It is clear from the evidence that we have received (including from our advisors, CIPFA, and the Comptroller and Auditor General) that there are certain parts of the law that we might need to consider lodging amendments to. We therefore intend to call-in the draft law for further scrutiny after the debate of the principles on 30th April. This will allow us further time to properly consider and scope any possible amendments, before the Articles of the draft law are debated. As you will be aware, this is in line with the provisions for legislative scrutiny set out in Standing Orders.

It is a matter for the Assembly to decide when we are required to report back, however I will be proposing that this is 4th June at the earliest. The sitting on 21st May would not provide us with sufficient time to draw up amendments, bearing in mind the lodging deadline of 3rd May.

Whilst writing, I would also like to notify you that we intend to set up a sub-panel to undertake the next phase of our work. This will be comprised of myself, Senator Ferguson, Deputy Wickenden, and two other members of the Corporate Services Panel.

We are aware that other Members may be starting to prepare for the debate or considering possible amendments and therefore wished to notify you and other members at this stage of our intentions. It is clear from our work so far that the draft law introduces substantial changes to the way the Island's public finances are managed and it is therefore essential that the changes are thoroughly scrutinised and that adequate time is allowed for this process.

Yours sincerely

Senator Kristina Moore
Chair, Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

Cc. Senator John Le Fondré, Chief Minister