

**Assistant Minister for
Economic Development,
Tourism, Sport and Culture**



19-21 Broad Street | St Helier
Jersey | JE2 4WE

By email

13 September 2022

Dear Chair,

As you will be aware, the previous Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel exchanged letters with the previous Chief Minister regarding the scrutiny of the Technology Accelerator Fund. I've enclosed copies of this correspondence below.

I am writing to you in my capacity as Chair of a joint Government of Jersey and Digital Jersey working group that is coordinating progress with the Technology Accelerator Programme. I have been asked to lead on this work by the Minister for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture.

Following the adoption of P.75/2022, Digital Jersey has appointed Challenge Works (formerly NESTA Challenges) to support the design phase of the accelerator programme. Challenge Works will be on island to engage with stakeholders, which can include Scrutiny should you wish, over the coming months. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss the role that your Panel might wish to play in this first stage of developing the technology accelerator programme. Whilst this is an area that Digital Jersey, as delivery partner, is principally responsible for delivering and managing, I think it is right – as the former Chief Minister noted in his letter – that close scrutiny is given to the design of the governance and financial management arrangements for both the Fund and the programme.

It will help you to know that we are planning to produce a design blueprint for the accelerator programme by the end of the year, in order that it might launch in the second quarter of 2023. Whilst I recognise you will have a range of priorities in the coming months, I would hope you might consider concluding your initial considerations before the end of the year, in order that we can push forward with securing the benefits of the Fund for Jersey.

I am also writing to the Economic and International Affairs Panel as they may wish to play a role in scrutinising this fund. I would welcome a chance to hear how best you believe that scrutiny of this work can be undertaken in order that I might arrange for appropriate support to be provided.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "AC".

Deputy Alex Curtis

Assistant Minister for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture

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CC.

Chair, Economic and International Affairs Panel

Director General, Department for the Economy

CEO, Digital Jersey