Deputy Chief Minister | Minister for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture



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

By email

3rd April 2023

Dear Chair,

Licensing Law - Update

Thank you for your letter of the 24th March, in which you provide a number of questions with regards to the Licensing Law. I have set out below answers to each of these in turn:

1. We note that the Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (JCRA) published its report following a market study on Alcohol Pricing and Promotions. How many of these key findings and recommendations have been implemented and are you working with the JCRA on any of these findings?

I am generally supportive of the JCRA's recommendations and will work with the sector through development of the visitor economy strategy to determine which recommendations we should move ahead with as part of the policy development and law drafting process.

2. When will you establish a plan for review of the Licensing (Jersey) Law 1974?

This will be partly informed by the forthcoming Visitor Economy Strategy and I envisage to be a position by the end of 2023 or early 2024, to make a decision on whether the Licensing (Jersey) Law requires amendments or even whether a new law needs to be drafted.

3. Ministerial Action P.2.3 mentions reviews of previous consultations with industry stakeholders and submissions to the States on licensing law reform. Will fresh consultation take place as part of any new review, outside establishment of the highlighted consultative stakeholder group?

As noted above, the review will be partly informed by the Visitor Economy Strategy which is itself being developed in close collaboration with stakeholders. Any amendments to the law will of course involve extensive consultation with stakeholders including the industry, Bailiff's Chambers, Comité des Connétables and Scrutiny.

4. Is the consultative stakeholder group the same as the working group described to the previous Panel in the Public Hearing of 26th February 2021? What progress has been made in establishing this?

No, a consultative stakeholder group is envisioned to be created as part of any changes to the Licensing (Jersey) Law 1974, such a group would be formed with members of the industry and operate similarly to the steering group for the Visitor Economy Strategy.

5. When could any legislative changes be anticipated, and will you forward any law drafting instructions to the Panel once formed?

At this stage it is not possible to give a definitive date on legislative changes, this will be contingent on the scale of amendments and updates to the law and on the resources available from the legislative drafting office. I will of course engage with the panel during the law drafting process and will be happy to provide a copy of any law drafting instructions.

I hope the above provides clarity to the areas you have raised.

Yours sincerely,

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